FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 SEPTEMBER 1984

Lebanon

Jihad Threat — The Beirut daily *AL-SAFIR* reported that it received a telephone call from the Islamic Jihad Organization warning that a "big operation" will soon be carried out against U.S. interests in retaliation for the massacre at Suhmur. The anonymous caller also reaffirmed his organization's responsibility for the 20 September bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy building in 'Awkar.

U.S. Diplomacy — Commenting on U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's arrival in Israel from Damascus, a senior Israeli official cited by Jerusalem radio said that if the U.S. visitor is bringing "positive answers to suggestions that have been raised," Israel could begin its withdrawal from Lebanon within "weeks." Earlier, Murphy discussed Israel's withdrawal in talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus radio noted. Meanwhile, a Damascus radio commentary dismissed Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent statements to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* as propaganda, warning that whenever Israel's leaders talk of peace they are preparing a new "aggression." The radio also viewed as an "exposed and ill-intended ploy" Shamir's implication that the Lebanese issue is between Israel and Syria. Lebanese affairs are the concern of the Lebanese Government, the radio added, and if there has to be a mediator, it should mediate between Israel and Lebanon.

Security — As Druze-Christian clashes continued in the Al-Kharrub area, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio blamed the Army and the Phalangists for shelling Druze villages, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon held Walid Junblatt's Druze forces responsible for shelling Christian villages. As for the northern city of Tripoli, Beirut radio announced that the security plan for the city was being implemented on 25 September.

In southeastern Lebanon, an IDF soldier and a Shin Bet operative were killed when their vehicle was ambushed late on 23 September, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio confirmed that Fatah fighters had manned the small boat which was recently intercepted by Israeli vessels near Sidon. The group, which included a French woman, was acting in accordance with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's call for all Palestinian factions to abandon their differences in order to struggle against the "Zionist enemy," the radio added.

PLO Affairs

If "circumstances" prevent the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers, the PLO leaders will ask "more than one" Arab capital to host the session, which will be held regardless of how many members attend and of whether "this or that organization" participates, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf stated in a Baghdad Voice of PLO radio interview. Noting that the PNC meeting has been postponed for 7 months because of the "unpleasant voices" of those who sounded as if they were working for the Syrian intelligence service, Khalaf called on Palestinians everywhere to raise one slogan: "Hands Off the PLO." PLO-Syrian relations will have no future if Syria maintains its demand for Yasir 'Arafat's removal from the PLO leadership, Khalaf warned.

Diplomatic Contacts

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid lauded President Ronald Reagan's concentration on the Middle East situation during the latter's speech at the United Nations, MENA reported. Al-Majid described the U.S. respect for nonalignment as a "constructive stand," and noted that the "Reagan plan" is one of the "means" to renew regional peace efforts. While attending the UN session, Al-Majid met with his Soviet counterpart, Andrey Gromyko, and discussed international issues and bilateral relations, Cairo radio reported.

Al-Majid also met with Israel's Shamir, the radio added. The two ministers expressed their desire to renew a dialogue, but no understanding was reached on the disputed issues, Jerusalem radio noted. Shamir explained after the meeting that there are no "ideological differences" between Israel and Egypt regarding a withdrawal from Lebanon, but there are no signs of "rapprochement."

Reacting to Reagan's speech, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by the radio stated that Reagan's statement does not contain anything new and that peace in the region should be founded on the Camp David accords alone. A Prime Ministry communique cited by the radio subsequently clarified that the Alignment faction in the unity government had never rejected the Reagan plan, but had never accepted the specifics.

Afghanistan

An Afghan Ariana Airlines civilian plane on an internal flight was "savagely and inhumanly attacked" by "counterrevolutionaries" on 21 September, BAKHTAR reported citing an airline official. The official stated that the airliner was hit by an "explosive shell" that caused "severe damage," although no one was injured and the plane arrived safely at its destination. According to IRNA, the guerrillas damaged an Ariana airliner last week during an attack on Kabul Airport with "long-range fire."

Senior representatives of the guerrillas cited by BBC World Service denied responsibility, pointing out that their men are under orders not to attack civilian planes. Meanwhile, mujahidin fighters killed or wounded more than 400 Soviet and Afghan Government troops during a "heavy clash" in Shindand District, the clandestine Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan radio reported.

Libya

Papandreou Visit — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou left Libya after signing a draft agreement on joint cooperation in various fields, JANA reported. Papandreou discussed matters of "utmost importance" in his talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and his visit illustrates the "excellent relations" between Greece and Libya, according to a joint statement on the visit carried by the Libyan agency.

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Salah Khalaf Interviewed on PNC, Syria

JN241800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Telephone interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, by an unidentified PLO radio correspondent on 24 Septemebr — recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] First of all, we welcome Brother Abu Iyad in this telephone conversation with the Voice of the Palestinian Revolution, Voice of the PLO. Brother Abu Iyad: The recent Algiers meetings, which discussed convening the PNC, resulted in giving another chance to the Algerian-Yemeni mediation in an atteempt to overcome the obstacles that Damascus is placing to prevent a PNC session. What can Abu Iyad say about the Algiers meetings and the new delay as well as Fatah's acceptance of this delay? Will meetings continue to delay this session?

[Salah Khalaf] First of all, and in order to assess the subject correctly, I believe that we in the Fatah Central Committee should not be blamed at all. Regrettably, the obstacles come from Damascus and from some sides of the alliance that hesitated to adopt a decisive stand toward the PNC. We know that there were Arab and Syrian pressures on them. However, there should eventually be a Palestinian decision. Shall we wait until Damascus or another Arab capital approves that decision? This is actually the problem from which we are suffering. Had the Algiers and Aden conferees not seen a defect in the stand of some parties to the alliance, the subject would not have been postponed twice. However, we in the Central Committee have said this is the final chance and we will go to Algiers within the next few days to tell our Algerian brothers: The new deadline is over; what is your decision now? If there are any reasons preventing the convening of the PNC in their country, we will then ask more than one Arab capital to host the session. We hope that our Algerian brothers have made adequate preparations allowing us to hold the PNC session there, because this is the desire of all of us. This time the PNC will convene regardless of the number of attending members. Henceforth, we will not care for this or that organization. We will care only for our Palestinian people and everyone who decides to attend the PNC session.

We shall wait no more. All those who hesitate and make too many calculations will not be taken into consideration in the future when we decide to hold the PNC. In my opinion, within the next 2 weeks Fatah will issue a historic decision similar to the previous decisions on armed struggle. We are used to our movement's initiative and we will [words indistinct], God willing.

[Correspondent] Thus, Brother Abu Iyad, it is quite clear that the topic of the hour now in the Palestinian and Arab arenas is that of the PNC and its 17th session. As you have said, the venue of the next PNC session is an essential part of the subject. You have talked about the Algerians' stand and circumstances. There are rumors, Brother Abu Iyad, about a change in the venue. Is there anything new about this?

[Khalaf] In fact, in some of our statements we said we will hold the PNC even on board a ship. We actually mean that. We insist on convening the PNC. The place will never be an obstacle. As I have told you, our main desire is to hold the PNC in Algiers. However, if there are any circumstances that prevent our Algerian brothers from hosting the PNC, this will not affect our relationship with Algeria. On the contrary, our relationship will continue to be good. We will then choose another venue through agreement with them. Frankly speaking, we have more than one place and we will announce the new place if our Algerian brothers apologize for not hosting the PNC. The place is not an obstacle.

[Correspondent] In the presence of alternative places, it seems that Fatah's decision is final in this regard.

[Khalaf] Yes, very final and without hesitation. The PNC will convene with those who attend. I mean by those who attend first, Fatah and the independent organizations; and second, all those who respect their decision and implement the Aden agreement. Of course, we have our brothers in the ALF, whom we think will agree to attend.

[Correspondent] The recent Fatah Central Committee statement places more than one question mark on the stands adopted by some parties on the Aden-Algiers agreement. The statement pointed out there are facts that will be announced in due course informing our people why the PNC was postponed more than once. Brother Abu Iyad, our people really want to know why the PNC was postponed more than once.

[Khalaf] In fact, the time is not suitable for stating these facts. However, all I can say is that some of these parties will be given a chance to come to Tunis, Algiers, or Aden and be told about the Fatah Central Committee decisions during the next few days. After we have informed them of our decision and have been informed of theirs, we will announce all these facts. Now I can say there are some parties that were speaking as though they were working for a Syrian intelligence apparatus. They did not seem to be part of the PLO or the Palestinian revolution. Some of them spoke as if they were panicking. They seemed afraid that their gains in Damascus will be lost. They feared for these gains more than they feared for the PLO and Palestinian revolution. We will expose the stands of all of them. We will only expose what they said in the meetings. What they said in some of the meetings was very surprising, painful, and sad. They did not speak as Palestinians. Some of them were opportunistic in their statements. All of this will be revealed to the people.

We postponed the PNC meeting for 7 months because of these unpleasant voices. We postponed the PNC more than once for the sake of national unity and for the sake of these parties. However, panic, fear, and cowardliness still exist. None of them took a historic stand; therefore, we will be satisfied with these general remarks. The time will come when we will speak with complete frankness about persons who represented an opportunistic, cowardly role during the current critical phase. This means that if we bow to Syria or any other Arab state, we will have no decisionmaking. This means we would have joined the class of the unsuccessful revolutions in the life of our people. The revolutions of our people were buried in this or that Arab capital. Our best achievement is the PLO. We have implemented independent Palestinian decisionmaking despite the opposition of all others. Nobody has the right to direct us. No regime can tell me us what to do. This is our people's right.

On this occasion, I tell our people, all over the occupied territory, I tell our people everywhere: Go out, raise one slogan; namely, take your hands off the PLO. Neither Syria nor others have the right to interfere in internal PLO affairs. They have no right to demand anything from us. Our people must move everywhere, through demonstrations and other forms to inform the whole world that they support the PLO, and to show that the voices of the cowards who appease the Arab regimes do not represent the Palestinian people.

This fact is known to our people. We will declare our position over the next few days. He who supports the independent Palestinian national decisionmaking, those who are with the PLO must immediately rush to say: I support the PNC convocation. Those who are against the PLO, even if they try to say the opposite, must also tell the people that they oppose independent national decisionmaking. This is part of our suffering over the past months. This is part of the pain that is afflicting our hearts. This is because we are preserving the PLO as we preserve our honor and values. These are the facts now and I cannot say any more.

[Correspondent] Damascus says that Yasir 'Arafat is the problem. What are your views on this argument and how would you evaluate the future relations between the PLO and Damascus in light of this argument?

[Khalaf] First, we reject this argument outright. Nobody in the world can convince us that the Syrian ruler or the ruler of any Arab state can appoint a PLO Executive Committee chairman or a Palestinian leader. This is ridiculous and tragic at the same time. Let the Syrian people also know that no Syrian or Arab ruler has the right to appoint a leader for us. We can appoint and choose. If we want to speak our views on some of the Arab rulers we find they do not deserve to be greeted or to be looked at. However, this is not our problem but the problem of their own peoples. Therefore, Yasir 'Arafat was chosen by us as a leader and chairman. No Arab ruler has the right to change him. It is not that simple. It does not mean that an Arab ruler can say go and he goes. Who is so mean in Fatah to accept the PLO chairmanship if Hafiz al-Asad could dismiss him ['Arafat]? Who will accept? They think that all of the Fatah members are scoundrels like the dissidents. The dissidents like Qadri [Samih Abu Kuwayk] and others may accept this. But Fatah has no members who would agree to be appointed by a Syrian or any other ruler. We are not like the dissidents who sold their honor and dignity in order to be agents for the Syrian intelligence. [Words indistinct] this bastion, which Qadri and Abu Khalid al-'Amlah tried to storm, does not house conquerable men.

Therefore, the problem of Yasir 'Arafat is the problem of the Palestinian revolution and people; it is the problem of the PLO and Fatah. No Syrian ruler can touch this problem. Let every Arab ruler know that this Palestinian cause is sacred and all those who attempt to harm it will be burned from the roots. Therefore, we look for good relations with Damascus. We call for such relations. However, if these demands remain, I believe that there will be no future for these relations.

[Correspondent] Our people in the occupied territory, represented by the mayors, establishments, trade unions, and press, demand holding the PNC and protecting the Aden-Algiers agreement. What would you like to tell our steadfast people inside the occupied territory?

[Khalaf] What can I say to my beloved brothers? These people are suffering the yoke of occupation. They also are suffering from certain stupid Arab behavior. Our people continue to be steadfast despite their harsh circumstances. I tell these people one thing: We derive our determination and strong will from their steadfastness. They teach us how to be firm in our principles and to be patient. They teach us how to remain steadfast in the current Arab situation. The PNC will be held because the PNC is an end in itself. At this stage the PNC is a victory or a defeat for the Palestinian will. It is a victory or a defeat for Palestinian national decisionmaking. This decisionmaking [word indistinct] for this legitimate Palestinian leadership and agents who sold their dignity and honor to some Arab states.

I tell our people: We would like to hear your voice in the Al-Aqsa courtyard. Tell these regimes: Take your hands off the PLO. It is true that our people are under occupation, but they will not concede their decision. They are suffering at the hands of their enemies, but the oppression of their brothers is more bitter. Raise your voice so that these Arab regimes know that our people support us despite their suffering and pain on the difficult road. God willing, sooner or later we will meet in Al-Aqsa and Jerusalem. We will all meet. We long for the good soil. I am sure we will meet there.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Abu Iyad. Thanks for this decisive Palestinian voice affirming our adherence to our basic principles; namely, no trusteeship, no containment, and no hegemony.

Democratic Alliance Calls For Convening PNC

JN241133 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 19

[Text] Damascus — The Palestinian Democratic Alliance groups have held a meeting in which they discussed the results of contacts and efforts to implement the Aden-Algiers agreement in order to restore PLO unity. They also discussed the results of PDRY and Algerian efforts and the meeting of President Chadli Bendjedid and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, held in Algiers recently and attended by delegations from the Democratic Alliance and Fatah. The conferees stated the following:

1. The Democratic Alliance reiterates continued commitment and adherence to the Aden-Algiers agreement and considers it a good base for restoring PLO unity, protecting its national trend and independence, and pursuing struggle in order to implement this agreement. This is in addition to reviving the PLO's legitimate institutions, particularly convening the PNC.

2. The decision to postpone the PNC meeting that was made at the recent Algiers meeting was to give further opportunity for Arab efforts to remove obstacles that have recently emerged. This does not mean approval of the continuing state of paralysis in the PLO's institutions or hampering efforts aimed at restoring PLO unity.

3. The Democratic Alliance affirms its concern over the unity of stand and joint action among the signatories of the Aden- Algiers agreement. It also affirms avoiding all matters that may weaken the unified efforts in cooperation with the Algerian and PDRY brothers. This is in addition to removing all obstacles in the way of implementing the agreement.

4. The national and pan-Arab need requires immediate action to end the state of paralysis and the rift in the PLO and to stop hampering its institutions, particularly in view of the grave developments and challenges in the Arab arena. This requires urgent action to end the crisis in the region and to settle the discord between Syria and the PLO.

5. The Democratic Alliance calls for an immediate national and comprehensive dialogue in which all Palestinian national forces and groups participate. In this regard, the Democratic Alliance reiterates its strong rejection of any preconditions that hamper this dialogue.

6. The Democratic Alliance appeals to all friendly Arab and world forces that have contributed to preserve the PLO's unity and blessed the Aden-Algiers agreement, to pursue and intensify their efforts to overcome the obstacles still hampering the achievement of PLO unity and the convocation of the PNC.

7. The Democratic Alliance calls on the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland, who have expressed the most extensive and comprehensive Palestinian unanimity in support of the Aden-Algiers agreement, to pursue struggle in defense of PLO unity and for implementing the agreement and reviving the PLO institutions, particularly convening the PNC.

Jerusalem Papers Assail Syria, Support 'Arafat

JN242007 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The Jerusalem newspaper *AL-SHA'B* says: As we watch the Syrian regime's obstinacy and its insistence on the brazen demand of 'Arafat's dismissal from the PLO leadership, we wonder about all this rancor. Is there a personal feud between Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat? Is the issue related to the Palestinian leader personally? Attempts to answer these questions may take a long time.

In our view, the question is not related to 'Arafat as a person but 'Arafat as a symbol of the independence, unity, and exclusiveness of Palestinian representation within a unified PLO. When Damascus demands the head of Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], it demands the life, existence, independence, and unity of the PLO. The Syrian regime wants to eliminate the Palestinian stand from the Arab action by weakening and fragmenting this stand with the aim of enabling Damascus, at this stage, to redraw the Lebanese map and Syrian international relations without having to contend with the Palestinian factor, which is a sincere, national, and revolutionary element against attempts to tamper with Palestinian rights.

On the same subject and under the headline, "No to the Syrian Veto," Jerusalem *AL-FAJR* says: Day after day, the Syrian regime is showing evidence of its plots against the PLO and its desperate attempts to expropriate independent Palestinian national decisionmaking and to place artificial obstacles before holding the 17th PNC session. The Syrian demand for dismissing Palestinian leader Abu 'Ammar as a price for solving the PLO-Syrian differences is, to say the least, a very dirty demand. This demand constitutes a clear insult to all of our Palestinian sons and a flagrant violation of the resolutions of the legitimate Palestinian constitutional bodies that elected Abu 'Ammar as a symbol, leader, and chairman of our Palestinian people everywhere.

Everyone, including the Syrian regime, knows that 'Arafat did not assume the leadership of the Palestinian people through an Arab decision so that he could be dismissed by an Arab decision. 'Arafat did not assume power through the barrel of the gun, like the president of the Syrian regime, so that he could be dismissed by the barrel of a gun. 'Arafat was elected by the Palestinian people. They alone have the right to tell 'Arafat stay or go. Our people reject a decision to dismiss 'Arafat from outside, especially from the Syrian regime. Our people are prepared to sacrifice all they have in order to back this rejection.

Fatah Communique on Al-Awwali Operation

JN241837 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] In an attack which is considered the first of its kind since 1982, a group of Fatah fighters has carried out a daring and heroic operation against the Zionist occupation forces' positions on the Al-Awwali bridge. The Fatah group used machine guns and rockets and engaged the Zionist military position in a battle which lasted until 0700 this morning [as heard]. The Fatah fighters killed the commander of the Zionist position and killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers. The Fatah group carried out this heroic attack against an alternative target. The group planned to attack a Zionist military target inside the occupied homeland. The Fatah fedayeen used a rubber boat to cross the sea.

A communique issued by Fatah states that the fedayeen group comprised five fighters including a French citizen born in Nice, (Francoise Capshiman). The Zionist navy intercepted the group at sea opposite Sidon, the capital of occupied southern Lebanon, yesterday, Sunday, while it was on its way to its first target inside occupied Palestine. The Palestinian communique says the Zionist interceptaion resulted in a naval battle with Zionist enemy boats. The fedayeen group succeeded in sinking an Israeli gunboat.

In the face of Israeli reinforcements which intensified after the naval battle, particularly helicopters which filled the sky, the Fatah heroes moved to the Lebanese coast and attacked the Israeli barracks on Al-Awwali bridge using machine guns and rockets . The battle between the Fatah fighters and enemy soldiers continued until this morning.

The Fatah communique announces the martyrdom of these heroes. The five heroes of the operation were: Captain Fatahi

Khalil al-Za'ir, born in Al-Rashidiyah; Lieutenant Samir Adham-al-Basri, born in Al-Hasakah in Syria; Muhammad Zuhayr Ghandur and Tariq Na'im Mustafa born in Burj al-Barajinah; and (Francoise Capshiman). Their pictures were shown in the Fatah military communique, proving that the Al-'Asifah heroes waged this battle in accordance with orders from Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], who called for the unity and solidarity of all Palestinian factions by abandoning all differences to struggle against the Zionist enemy at a time when the Palestinian revolution has reached a new stage to be defined during the next PNC session.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Reported

JN242018 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men have attacked a Zionist military patrol near Al-Rayhan villagein occupied southern Lebanon. The attack, in which machine guns and rockets were used, killed or wounded a great number of the Zionist patrol, including a senior Zionist officer. The Zionist enemy radio admitted this daring attack by the resistance men. The radio said: A shower of machine gun fire and rockets fell on the Israeli patrol near Al-Rayhan. The radio claimed that five of the patrol's soldiers, including a senior officer were wounded. The wounded Israeli soldiers were immediately evacuated to hospitals inside occupied Palestine.

The resistance men also detonated a remote-controlled high explosive charge while a Zionist patrol was passing on the road near Jwaaya near Tyre in southern Lebanon. As a result of the explosion, the Zionist patrol sustained heavy lossses and a number of soldiers were killed or wounded. The Zionist spokesman, who admitted this operation, did not mention the losses, and said Israeli forces cordoned off the area and began searching for the resistance men who withdrew safely to their bases.

A charge planted by the resistance men near Dayr Khammash went off as a Zionist military patrol was passing. The explosion led to a number of the Zionist patrol being killed or wounded . The enemy television, which admitted the operation, claimed that only three soldiers were wounded. It said that after the explosion, the Israeli forces searched the area for other mines that might have been planted by the resistance men.

Arab Parliamentarians Draft Joint Stand on Issues

LD242330 Kuwait KUNA in English 1812 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Geneva, Sept 24 (KUNA) — An Arab drafting committee emanating from the Arab Parliamentary Union, met here Monday to prepare a joint Arab stand toward major Arab issues.

Member of the Kuwaiti delegation, Dr Khalid al-Wassmi told KUNA that the committee has discussed three drafts presented by the Kuwaiti, Syrian and Iraqi delegations on the Middle East and the continuation of Israel's occupation of Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war, the attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers and the mining of the Red Sea. The committee which groups members from Algeria, Kuwait, Yemen and the Secretariat of the Arab Parliamentary Federation has met and agreed on a joint Arab draft on the main Arab issues.

Dr al-Wassmi said the draft stresses in particular on the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland, and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and condemns rising collaboration between Israel and the racist regime of South Africa. The draft also expresses support to the Geneva declaration on the Palestinian issue adopted by the international conference held in 1980.

On the Iraq-Iran war, the Arab draft calls for an end to that conflict through negotiations and condemns the Iranian attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi commercial ships in territorial waters of the two Arab countries.

Dr al-Wassmi added the Kuwaiti draft resolution is emanating from concrete facts relating to the Israeli racial practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

In today's inaugural meeting, the head of the Swiss parliamentary group said in a speech that the 95 years old IPU is still an active establishment on the international arena despite the fact that its resolutions are not compulsory. He said that more than 263 parliamentarians around the world have been imprisoned without justifications, but thanks to the IPU's efforts over the past eight years more than 220 of them have been freed. He also spoke about the Iraq-Iran war and said there are no signs of a settlement for that conflict and tackled the problem of Lebanon but did not refer to the Palestinian crisis and the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories.

Meanwhile, the IPU approved in its evening session today the admission of Equatorial Guinea and Tanzania to the union and suspended the membership of Guinea and condemned its freezing of constitutional establishments in that African country.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Officials Hold 'Closed' Session

LD241331 Riyadh SPA in English 1234 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 24, SPA — Under secretaries of foreign ministries from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council began their second meeting here today to discuss issues concerning coordination among member states on a number of issues of common interest. They will also review the implementation of resolutions adopted by their first meeting.

Addressing the session, Husayn 'Ali Dossari, director general of the GCC administration at the Qatari Foreign Ministry, who also chaired the meeting, said it would discuss coordination among the member states on a number of issues of common interest. He appealed to Iran and Iraq to respond positively to Islamic and Arabic efforts to spare Moslem blood and to restore the region's security and stability. After his address, the officials held a closed-door session. The Council is made up of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

Meeting Ends

LD241808 Riyadh SPA in English 1650 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 24 (SPA) — The GCC under secretaries for foreign affairs ended their meeting this evening at the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh. The conferees discussed the means of coordinating political issues which concern the countries of the Council and dealt with the economic issues to be discussed by the various economic groups. The conferees reaffirmed their previous recommendations concerning coordination in the field of diplomatic representation, the holding of meetings of the representatives of the GCC countries to the various countries of the world, and the organization of diplomatic courses for raising the standards of the diplomatic cadres of the GCC countries.

'Arafat, Chatti, Jawara Meet on Gulf War Mediation

LD241412 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1340 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, 24 Sep (SPA) — A meeting was held this afternoon under the chairmanship of His Excellency the President of Gambia and Chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee Dawda Jawara in the presence of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and General Secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti. Consultations took place at the meeting concerning the work of the committee's efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war.

ICO Proposes Mediation

GF250602 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 25 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] The 45-nation Islamic Conference Organisation reliably reported last night to be reactivating their mediation bid to bring the four-year-old Gulf war to an end. PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived unexpectedly in Jidda for urgent talks with organisation Secretary General Habib Chatti and Gambian President Dawda Jawara on means of reviving mediation efforts. The three men later held talks to hammer out details of a revamped peace plan before they were to visit Baghdad and Tehran. 'Arafat said a military disengagement proposal, to be enforced by an organisation military commission, was one of the main topics of discussion.

The organisation and the Gulf Cooperation Council have been encouraged by an Iranian overture, issued on Saturday by parliament Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, to end the Gulf war. In an interview with the official Iranian news agency, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that unidentified Gulf Arab leaders were to visit Tehran shortly for peace talks. Arab diplomatic sources said that the Amir of Qatar and the president of the UAE, who had received personal messages from Iranian president Ali Khamene'i, would be actively involved in a renewed mediation bid.

Iraq's official newspapers warned again yesterday that Iran's main oil terminal at Khark Island would be destroyed if Tehran continued to reject a settlement to the Gulf war.

Chatti Cited on Meetings

LD242130 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Dawda Jawara, president of Gambia and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, resumed talks this evening with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and Habib Chatti, the ICO secretary general. During these talks, which were attended by Gambian Foreign Minister Lamin Kiti Jabang, the work of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, which seeks to end the Iraq-Iran war, was discussed.

Following the meeting, Gambian President and Chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee Dawda Jawra pointed out that prior to his visit to the Kingdom he held contacts and consultations with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq during his visit to Pakistan, regarding the proposed means and steps for reaching a final solution for the war between the two Muslim neighbors Iraq and Iran.

The chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in a statement to SPA said that since his arrival in the Kingdom he has held several meetings with Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat and Secretary General of the ICO Habib Chatti which have dealt with the efforts being made by the Islamic Good Offices Committee to end the war. He reaffirmed that the committee is consulting with its members and with everyone connected with the efforts being made to end the Iraq-Iran war. He pointed out that the Islamic Good Offices Committee uses of calm diplomacy in all its contacts.

Official Says Reports on Oil Slick Unfounded

GF241649 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Doha, 24 Sep (WAKH) — Reports of an oil slick threatening Qatar's northern coastlines appeared unfounded as surveys conducted by the Qatari Permanent Committee on Environment Protection today and yesterday gave negative results. Dr Hasan 'Abdallah Kushkush, secretary general of the Qatari Environment Protection Authority, stated to Qatar news agency Tuesday [as received] that aerial and naval surveys as well as land sighting were conducted in the past 48 hours for the purpose. But although the result of the surveys was negative no effort has been made to stop the search if only to deal with eventualities, Dr Kushkush said. He noted that contacts with concerned organisations in the region were also continuing for coordination.

KUWAIT

British Envoy: UK Willing to Give Kuwait Arms
LD241726 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1605 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 24 Sep (KUNA) — British Ambassador to Kuwait Michael Ramzi Melhuish in an interview which was published here today has expressed his country's readiness to supply Kuwait with the defensive weapons it needs. In an interview on various political issues published by the Kuwaiti paper *Al-ANBA* he added that his country has sophisticated and modern weapons which could aid Kuwait in confronting any eventuality.

It should be recalled here that Kuwait Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah visited London on 24 April of this year following his visit to the United States and had talks with his British counterpart Michael Heseltine regarding issues of mutual interest in the defense area. The British ambassador said Kuwaiti-British relations were well-developed and deep-rooted. He said Kuwait and Britain are old friends, they have long had a common tradition of working together, and their cooperation in international spheres and all other fields is good.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, Mr Melhuish said that at present he could not see any indication this war will stop. Britain regards this war as a loss in men, funds, and equipment. He described his country's attitude vis-a-vis both sides of the conflict as an attitude based on neutrality and bias towards neither side. He expressed his country's desire for any negotiations or constructive efforts aimed at putting an end to this war. Regarding his country's attitude in the event Iran closes the Strait of Hormuz at any time during the war, the British ambassador reaffirmed that London would be one of the first states to insist on freedom of navigation in the Gulf or in any other waters. He said the Palestinian issue is a complex one and Britain and her allies in the EEC are convinced of the necessity to give the Palestinians their right to self-determination.

Foreign Minister on Need for Soviet Role in Mideast
LD250829 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0713 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Sep (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister, foreign and information minister of Kuwait, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad announced in a press statement published here today that he will inform American officials, when he meets with them, that there will be no solution to the Middle East question without Soviet participation.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, replying to a question put to him by *AL-QABAS* at the UN Headquarters about how prepared the Americans are to accept a Soviet role in resolving the Middle East question, said: "I see that the rapprochement which I sense from President Reagan toward the Soviet Union will solve many problems, and possibly by discussing these problems there could be some initiatives that would correspond with the principles of the Soviet initiative."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad was commenting on a speech delivered by President Reagan last night at UN Headquarters in which he stressed adherence to his peace plan for the Middle East, at the same time affirming U.S. participation in all efforts to establish peace in the region. However, he pointed out that the road to this is "difficult and lengthy." President Reagan in his speech also announced that his peace plan mainly depends on Security Council Resolution No 242 concerning the crisis in the region. At the same time he called for regular meetings and consultations to be held among officials of the two major powers to discuss regional problems and other major issues.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said in his comment: "We have placed the Fes resolution beside Reagan's initiative, from which it is not too far distant despite having recognizable differences; regrettably, matters were frozen. Now the Soviet initiative has come. We believe that there will be no solution without Soviet participation."

The Soviet Union has proposed an international conference to be convened to discuss the Middle East question and find a solution. However, the United States has refused to participate, while some countries have shown some reservations, such as Britain and France. He pointed out that he will announce this to the U.S. secretary of state and American officials whom he will be meeting during his stay in New York to deliver Kuwait's speech at the new session of the UN General Assembly.

Military Delegation Returns From France
LD221806 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Excerpt] 22 Sep (KUNA) — Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim, chief of the General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army, and his accompanying delegation returned here today after a 5-day visit to France. On his return, Major General al-Ghanim informed the press that he had asked French officials to hasten the implementation of the weapons deal which were signed between Kuwait and France.

He said that he had discussed with French [Defense] Minister Charles Hernu "the military matters which concerned both our countries." He added that he had conveyed to him the greetings of Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim.

UAE

Briefs

Illegal Infiltrators Sentenced — The Court of Dubayy has sentenced 33 persons to jail terms varying from 15 days to 3 months for illegal entry into the country. The court also sentenced the eight-member crew of the ship (*Rahmani*) to a 3-month jail term, a fine of 1000 dirhams each, and deportation from the country, for illegally transporting people into the country. The court sentenced 25 other Iranians to 15 days in jail, a fine of 500 dirhams each, and deportation from the country for illegal entry into the country. [Excerpt] [*Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 23 Sep 84 p 2 GF*]

PDRY

Iran's Besharati Meets PDRY Industry Minister

LD242253 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, who is visiting the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, met and conferred with the PDRY Industries Minister 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal in Aden today. The two officials discussed bilateral economic relations, specifically trade and oil. They later visited the Aden oil refinery. Besharati met Sunday with the PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who expressed his country's backing for the Iranian proposal to expel the Zionist regime from the United Nations.

Briefs

New Algerian Envoy — Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Amayah, deputy foreign minister, has received the credentials of Brother Dr Mohamed al-'Arabi (Wal Khalifah) as Algerian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PDRY. [Excerpt] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Sep 84 GF*]

Peace Delegation to Moscow — A delegation of the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity, led by the council's Deputy Chairman Brother 'Ali Salih 'Ubad Muqbil, left Aden for Moscow this evening to participate in the conference of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With the Peoples of Asia and Africa. [Summary] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Sep 84 GF*]

YAR

Foreign Ministry Official Meets With USSR Envoy

GF24[illegible]933 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Brother Ahmad al-Iryani discussed bilateral relations with Soviet Ambassador in San'a' Anatoliy Ivanovich Filev, during his meeting with the ambassador today.

Iraqi Minister Arrives To Mark 26 Sep Revolution

GF241911 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, Iraqi minister of state for military affairs, arrived in San'a' today, heading a delegation to our people's celebrations of the 22d anniversary of the glorious 26 September Revolution. In a statement to SABA', Lt Col Shanshal expressed his joy in participating in our people's great celebrations. He said that on this occasion, he will convey to the brother leader, the secretary general, and the Yemeni people, the greetings and congratulations of President Saddam Husayn and the fraternal Iraqi people. He was welcomed at the airport by Dr Muhammad al-Kabab, minister of health and member of the Standing Committee; and Lieutenant General 'Ali Salah, deputy chief of staff for military affairs and member of the Standing Committee; a number of officials; 'Aqil Jasim Husayn, Iraqi ambassador in San'a'; and an official in charge of presidential protocol.

Al-Baz Statement Welcomes Peace Initiatives

NC241417 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1232 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Sep (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, announced that Egypt welcomes any U.S. efforts toward achieving peace in the Middle East. He also expressed his belief that the time has come for all to do whatever possible to activate the peace process.

In the statements he made today to Egyptian and foreign journalists, Dr al-Baz said we always maintain our viewpoint concerning the Middle East situation, which induces us to exert all efforts to bring about a change in the present situation prevailing in the Middle East.

Dr al-Baz noted that the current situation fosters violence terrorism, and despair. We welcome the activation of U.S. efforts. We will be delighted to consult with the United States in connection with the peace initiative [Dr al-Baz said].

With regard to President Reagan's initiative for peace in the area, Dr al-Baz expressed his hope that the initiative could possibly generate strong momentun for the peace process.

Dr al-Baz said: There are some states that have rejected President Reagan's initiative. It is also possible that some of those who rejected it are moving toward this initiative. Furthermore, some Arab sides are not enthusiastic about the topics the Reagan initiative has addressed. He said, however, that he believes it is possible for the general atmosphere to change within the coming months, and that the U.S. initiative will be welcomed by many parties.

Replying to a question about Egypt's viewpoint on the form the initiative should take so that it will be accepted by all sides, Dr al-Baz emphasized that it is imperative for this initiative to include Jordan and the Palestinians in the peace negotiations. It is also imperative to recognize — in one way or another — the Palestinians' right to self-determination to strike a balance between the Palestinians' and Israel's legitimate demands.

Dr al-Baz said: We are talking about a comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue. It is possible that we can add to the achievements we made when we signed the peace accord with Israel.

Dr Usamah al-Baz added: It is natural that all parties should realize the extent of danger resulting from terrorism and violence in the area. We believe efforts must be doubled to curb the prevailing wave of violence in the area.

When asked about the outcome of the Egyptian investigation during the past few days with regard to the source of mines in the Red Sea, Dr al-Baz said: We have not yet found any definite evidence in this regard. We will not determine anything before we are fully certain of the results. We must have strong evidence before we point our finger at this or that side.

Replying to a question about the restoration of relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, Dr al-Baz said: The commencement of the new Soviet ambassador's mission in Cairo does not signify that a new move has been made with regard to the cooperation between the two countries, but places matters in their true prespective. In other words, the same bases and principles that govern our relations with other countries will also be applied to our relations with the Soviet Union.

Dr al-Baz affirmed that the return of relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union means the return of normalcy to the situation, because it is unacceptable for the abnormal situation — which prevailed over the past years — to continue.

Foreign Minister Praises Reagan UN Address

NC241854 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] New York, 24 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, who is in New York, today described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's affirmation of the United States' respect for nonalignment built on sound foundations as a constructive stand.

Commenting on President Reagan's address to the UN General Assembly today, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid lauded the U.S. President for concentrating on the Middle East situation and for asserting that the United States is a full partner in the peace efforts and that his personal commitment to his initiative is still as strong. 'Abd al-Majid pointed out in this respect that Egypt regards the Reagan plan as one of the means that could renew regional place efforts.

'Abd al-Majid also said the UN General Assembly clearly welcomed the U.S. President's call for talks between the two superpowers at the highest levels. 'Abd al-Majid said such consultations on all international matters will contribute to finding solutions to all major issues; this proposal therefore deserves attention.

Cairo Reports Al-Majid-Gromyko Meeting

NC250512 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met in New York yesterday with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko. In a statement to the radio correspondent, 'Abd al-Majid said this meeting is the first on this level since the return to Moscow of the Egyptian ambassador. He added that the discussions during the meeting dealt with international issues and the relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

The foreign minister also met with his West German counterpart. The talks touched on the international situation and bilateral relations. The situation in the Middle East region and the peace efforts were discussed during Dr 'Abd al-Majid's meeting with his UK counterpart.

In a similar development, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir.

Foreign Ministry Source on French-Libyan Pact

NC241304 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1238 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Sep (MENA) — A responsible Foreign Ministry source commented on the French-Libyan statement regarding the withdrawal of the two countries' forces from Chad beginning 25 September. The source said Egypt's position is firm and clear. It supports the fraternal Republic of Chad, its national leadership, its territorial integrity, and its independence. Egypt, therefore, is interested in consulting with the legitimate Government of Chad, headed by President Hissein Habre, regarding this new development which primarily concerns Chad.

The source said Egypt hopes that French-Libyan agreement will be implemented with good will and will lead to the withdrawal of the Libyan forces from all Chadian territory, will be a step toward the restoration of security and stability in Chad, and will open the way for national reconciliation and a settlement of differences among the people of Chad without foreign pressure or interference. A high-ranking Chadian delegation is due to arrive in Cairo within the coming few days.

Explosives Suspected on British Airways Plane

NC241728 Cairo MENA in English 1725 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, Sept 24 (MENA) — A British Airways airliner was called back to Cairo International Airport today ten minutes after it took off for London due to suspected explosives aboard. Immediately after the plane had landed its 201 passengers and 22 crew members were brought down and a search was started.

The search is still going on it. So far a trunk was found containing gold bullion and foreign currencies.The British Airways plane, a Tristar airliner, had arrived at Cairo Airport at 3:40 a.m. for refueling in the course of its flight from Dar es Salaam to London via Khartoum and Cairo.

After the plane had taken off at 4:26 p.m., the Cairo Airport control tower signalled the plane to return to Cairo following a telephone call from an unidentified person that explosives were aboard. The director of Cairo Airport security said that the search has proved that the plane does not carry any explosives.

The director, Major-General Mukhtar Mi'bid, added that a bag was found containing thirty kilograms of gold ingots and a large amount of dollars. The bag belonged to a Tanzanian passenger who boarded the plane at Dar es Salaam. He added that no passenger left the airplane into the transit hall when the plane arrived here from Khartoum. The airliner is due to leave for London later tonight.

Press on U.S. Embassy Bombing, Sumbur Incident

NC230633 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 23 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "We Denounce Terrorism and Call for Withdrawal," *AL-AHRAM* notes that Egypt has denounced the terrorist operation against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, which followed three similar operations against U.S. and French installations in Lebanon.

AL-AHRAM explains that while we denounce terrorism in all shapes and forms, at the same time and in pursuance of our declared policy since the beginning of the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon in June 1982, we call on the new Israeli coalition government seriously to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and to hand over occupied southern Lebanon to the legitimate Lebanese authorities. The new Israeli Government should do this instead of making a sham withdrawal to which the previous Israeli Government resorted and under which some areas of southern Lebanon were handed over to the militiamen of the breakaway and pro-Israeli army of southern Lebanon.

On the same subject, *AL-AKHBAR* notes that the reaction, as well as the statements of resentment, condemnation, and denunciation of the suicide attack on the new U.S. Embassy building in Beirut continues. Angry reaction came from all parts of the world. *AL-AKHBAR* continues: Undoubtedly, we denounce terrorism, but in the welter of the incident everyone forgot that a massacre was committed on the same day in which 13 innocent civilians were killed and over 30 others were wounded by the army of southern Lebanon's militiamen. This army is financed and armed by Israel and is considered without exaggeration a part of the Israeli Army.

AL-AKHBAR expresses the view that terrorism will continue as long as justice is absent and as long as there are lost rights that cannot be recovered. Peace and stability cannot prevail unless hearts become devoid of fear and the feeling of persecution.

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes U.S. Policy, Reagan UN Speech

NC250531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Sep (MENA) — The newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* affirms that Israel's obstinacy and insistence on continuing with its aggressive, expansionist policy constitute the real obstacle to the solution of the conflict in the Middle East. In a commentary in its Tuesday issue, the paper points out that Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, its continued occupation of south Lebanon, its involvement in the Sabra and Shatila massacre and recently in the Suhmur massacre, its recurring attacks on the Palestinians and Lebanese, its present stand with regard to the autonomy talks, and its allegations concerning the Egyptian Taba area — all these things are regarded as sufficient compelling evidence that proves to the whole world, especially to the United States, that Israel is the real obstacle in the negotiations process to achieve a peaceful and just settlement that will ensure for the Palestinians their legitimate rights.

The paper emphasizes that the U.S. policy's partiality to the Israeli stands — the latest instance of which was the U.S. vetoing of the UN Security Council's resolution denouncing the Israeli practices in south Lebanon — is what causes Israel to step up its obstinacy and insistence on continuing with its aggressive, expansionist policy. It is also the principal reason for the repeated suicide attacks to which the U.S. interests in Lebanon are subjected.

The paper criticizes President Reagan's disregard of all these issues in his speech to the UN General Assembly when he dealt with the Middle East issue and called for rational and courageous negotiations as the only way to resolve any dispute.

The paper concludes its commentary by calling for a reconsideration of stands with some prudence so that stability may be restored to the Middle East.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,598

JN241633 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,598 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. For the sake of keeping the banner of victory hoisted over the heads of the glorious Iraqis, our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the arrogant Iranian enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units fired on enemy positions and troops in the Maysan sector, killing three and wounding others. The enemy was seen evacuating their positions. One firing position and one observation post were also destroyed.

2. Our bold helicopter gunships attacked enemy positions and troop concentrations in the southern sector of the operational theater, inflicting losses in equipment and troops and destroying one antiaircraft machine gun. All our aircraft returned safely, praise be to God.

3. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units strongly pounded the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the operational theater, inflicting serious damage and destroying one infantry position and one hardware position. Those in the infantry position were killed.

4. Our forward units sighted a group of enemy troops and engineering equipment opposite our positions in the northern sector of the operational theater. Our forces fired on them and forced them to flee. Elsewhere in the same sector, one infantry position was destroyed.

5. One infantry position was destroyed and large fires broke out on the enemy side opposite our forward units' positions in the operational area east of Basra.

6. Fresh groups of Iranian military men, fleeing the hell of the unjust regime in Iran, sought refuge with our forward units in the central and northern sectors of the battlefield. The defectors include a police officer and one of the Khomeyni guards. The guard brought with him two weapons and a quantity of hardware. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 September 1984

Trade Minister, Delegation Leave for Indonesia

JN241809 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1624 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Sep (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, left Baghdad for Jakarta today at the head of a delegation on an official visit to Indonesia.

In a statement to INA, Hasan 'Ali said that he is carrying a written message from President Saddam Husayn to Indonesian President Suharto on bilateral relations. He added that during the visit he will head the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Indonesian committee stemming from the trade agreement signed between the two countries in 1977.

The Iraqi delegation comprises representatives from the foreign economic relations committee and from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Light Industries.

Baghdad Radio Reports Reagan's Speech to UN

JN250638 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] U.S. President Reagan has proposed the holding of periodic ministerial meetings between the United States and the USSR to discuss what he termed existing differences between them. In a speech he delivered before the 39th session of the UN General Assembly today, Reagan noted the need for both sides to hold periodic political consultations on world regional disputes in order to help find peaceful solutions to them.

The U.S. President admitted that there is no reasonable alternative to the talks on arms limitations. He proposed the formulation of a new framework for disarmament to avoid what he termed any wrong assessment and to reduce the dangers of international confrontation.

King Husayn, Queen Return From UK 24 Sep

JN241912 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur returned to the homeland this evening after a private visit to the United Kingdom. During the visit, King Husayn met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and a number of senior British officials. His Majesty also visited the Farnborough air show.

Their majesties were received at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, His Highness Prince 'Abdallah, and a number of royal family members as well by the prime minister, the House of Representatives speaker, the court minister, the ministers, the chief of staff, the Public Security director, a number of civilian and military officials, and the British ambassador in Amman.

Returning with his majesty were Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and His Highness Ra'd ibn Zayd, the chief chamberlain.

Crown Prince Hasan on Arab Food Security

JN241617 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Sep 84

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Excerpts] Addressing the sixth technical conference of the Union of Arab Agricultural Engineers [in Amman today], His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, said: Arab food security is a basic element for pan-Arab security, and the Arab nation can double its agricultural produce if it manages to employ its capabilities effectively. At the beginning of his speech, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan welcomed the conferees and conveyed to them His Majesty King Husayn's greetings and good wishes. His highness said:

[Begin Hasan recording] Your country, Jordan, is glad to host this important meeting which deals with an issue that is extremely important for the Arab nation's security and development, that is, the issue of food security. The key subject under discussion, the promotion of productivity in the agricultural sector and the importance of this promotion in achieving food security, comes as a basic link in studying Arab food security and the means of bolstering it.

Brothers and sisters: At this time when the Arab nation's security is exposed to threats on several axes and to direct onslaughts, we must not forget that pan-Arab security is an integrated concept. Food security constitutes an essential element in this concept. We cannot be reassured about our integrated pan-Arab security if our food security is exposed to defects and threats. The problem of Arab food security is mainly characterized by the exacerbation of this problem during the last decade and the expected aggravation of this problem during the next two decades. The Arab countries' food imports have, brethren, risen considerably from $9 billion in 1977 to $14 billion in 1981.

Brothers and sisters, despite the magnitude of this problem, you undoubtedly realize that it can be solved because the water, natural, human, and financial resources available in the Arab homeland can guarantee the doubling of agricultural produce several times if they are used properly. The area that is currently cultivated does not exceed one-fourth of the arable lands. Moreover, the major part of the Arab water resources has not yet been utilized. There is a large scope for horizontal expansion in agricultural production so that the food gap can be narrowed within a reasonable period of time. Also, the current productivity of the available resources is low compared with its likes in other world areas. If the currently utilized resources are properly used, and once the modern and integrated techniques of agricultural production and marketing are employed, there will be a large chance to increase both productivity and produce. This does not mean that every Arab country's goal should be the attainment of self-sufficiency in every agricultural commodity. Our goal is to achieve some sort of self-sufficiency in agricultural production on the level of the Arab homeland as a whole for the sake of bolstering our food security, guaranteeing our freedom to decide our own affairs, and providing sufficient food for the Arab citizen, particularly in the rural and poor areas.

Brothers and sisters, the resolutions adopted at the Arab summit conference in Amman in 1980 indicated the importance of food security for the Arab homeland through the strategy of joint Arab economic action and the other important economic resolutions adopted by the conference. The difficulty facing Arab development in general, and agricultural development in particular is due to the unavailability of all the resources required by this development on the regional level. Some Arab countries have a surplus of lands and waters but are suffering from a noticeable shortage of financial resources, whereas some other Arab countries have plentiful financial resources but a shortage of water and arable lands. An obvious solution to such a vast disparity lies in adopting an integrated development plan to utilize the available resources in the service of all the Arab nation's needs. However, what has been achieved in this respect during the last decade falls short of our ambitions.

We do not have much time to talk about the need for an Arab economic integration. There is a pressing need to begin implementing it now. Agricultural production is an obvious field for the implementation of this integration. Demand for agricultural produce is increasing and resources are plentiful. What we need is a serious will on the highest level.

I would like to draw attention here that we in Jordan have embarked on a pioneering study about the agricultural sector in Jordan and in fraternal Sudan by employing the applied systems and the technique of analyzing these systems. This study is almost finished and I hope that the brother guests will acquaint themselves with it. The importance of this study is that it deals with agricultural development as an interacting process that is influenced by the decisions of several quarters within and outside the government apparatus. This development goes beyond the process of implementing agricultural projects and programs. It is hoped that this study will supply us with better and more accurate information about the factors affecting the development of agriculture. We also hope that its method and results will be used in studying the agricultural sector in other Arab countries.

Brothers and sisters, despite the economic and military challenges facing Jordan, this country has accomplished a number of ambitious development plans. The integrated development in the Jordan Valley represents a distinguished model for an agricultural development aimed at building the society, and not only at implementing projects.

What gives additional importance to this project [as heard] is that it is located in an area confronting the Zionist enemy. This enemy does not conceal its ambitions to control the area's resources, particularly water resources. Israel is in control of most of the waters of the Jordan River basin and Jordan is utilizing only part of its legitimate rights to these waters. We believe that defending rights and building the homeland are inseparable. The policy of the Israeli occupation is clearly evident in the occupied Arab territories, where Israel is controlling all the water resources and exploiting them to consecrate its occupation, build settlements, and confiscate lands. Israel has thus far built about 180 settlements on the expropriated West Bank lands. This amounts to 51 percent of the area of the occupied West Bank. It used Arab waters to establish agricultural projects in these settlements at the expense of the Arab farmers.

Israel realized the importance of being tied to the land. Therefore, it worked hard to shake this linkage, weaken the agricultural sector in the occupied areas, and force workers to leave this sector and seek work inside Israel, a matter that reduces their dependence on themselves and links the destiny of the occupied areas' economy to Israel.

Brothers, the challenge facing our nation makes it incumbent on us to double our efforts in order to build our homeland and develop our economy. The agricultural sector represents a cornerstone in this respect. Moreover, you as an enlightened stratum of this nation who combine science with affiliation to this homeland's soil, represent a basic pillar in facing the difficult challenges encountered in the comprehensive development of our Arab homeland. [end recording]

Reagan's General Assembly Speech Reported

JN250643 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] New York — U.S. President Ronald Reagan today proposed to the USSR the holding of periodic ministerial meetings to discuss all existing differences between the two countries. In a speech before the UN General Assembly, Reagan said that the United States is ready to hold constructive negotiations with the USSR.

President Reagan added that there is no reasonable alternative to arms control talks. He noted that U.S.-Soviet meetings should tackle the settlement or regional disputes.

On the subject of disarmament, the U.S. President proposed the formulation of a wider framework taking into consideration all current negotiations.

Further Reportage

JN250648 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] United Nations — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has affirmed his commitment to solve the Middle East problem on the basis of his plan which was announced 2 years ago. In a speech today before the UN General Assembly, Reagan said that his plan is considered a practical approach which can serve as a basis for action. He affirmed that his commitment to the plan is as strong as on the day of its announcement. The U.S. President described UN Security Council Resolution 242 as the cornerstone of his new diplomatic efforts.

Egyptian Trade Delegation Arrives in Amman

JN240810 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — An Egyptian trade delegation arrived in Amman yesterday on a visit of several days to Jordan. The delegation was received on arrival by a number of officials from the Trade Centers Corporation and the Amman Chamber of Industry. The delegation is scheduled to meet with Industry and Trade Minister Dr Jawad al-'Anani and a number of officials.

The delegation's visit is aimed at discussing the development of trade relations between Jordan and Egypt, contacting Jordanian industrialists to make deals with them, and at signing contracts concerning the remaining part of the trade protocol signed by the two countries on 25 December 1983, valued at $10 million.

Greek Prime Minister's Visit Postponed

JN250727 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — It has been learned that Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's visit to Jordan next week has been postponed until the end of the year or early next year.

Satellite Launch Postponed Until Jan 85

JN241214 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 6

[Excerpt] Amman, *AL-RA'Y* — Muhammad Shahid Isma'il, general director of the Telecommunications Corporation, has said that the first Arab satellite, which will be carried on the European Ariane rocket, will now be launched in January 1985, and not in November as originally scheduled. In an exclusive interview with *AL-RA'Y*, Isma'il added: Since this rocket carries two satellites at the same time, the Arabsat administration began coordinating with the owners of the other satellite according to the prevailing rules in this regard.

Asked about the reports disseminated by some news agencies and newspapers that the launching of the first Arab satellite might be postponed, Isma'il said that the European Ariane Space Agency had unilaterally decided to change its entire launch program by postponing its operations for 2 months. Accordingly, the launch dates of all world satellites contracted with this agency, including the first Arab satellite, have been postponed for 2 months.

Isma'il said that Communications Minister Dr Muhammad al-Zabin, president of the current session of the Arab Space Communications General Assembly, recently received a message from the French Government, whose contents were circulated to all the Arab countries.

The postponement was justified as follows: The European Space Agency has decided to postpone its entire launch program for 2 months in order to be able to launch the (Marx) satellite for the maritime space communications (Anmarsat) project. The first attempt to launch this satellite failed. Therefore, a second attempt to launch it was given priority. However, the European Space Agency preferred to carry a U.S. satellite (Telenet) into space instead of the first Arab satellite.

From this premise, the Arabsat administration expressed reservations toward this measure and affirmed that it will not relinquish its rights as specified in the contract concluded between it and the European Space Agency.

Several Students Banned From Entering Syria

JN241107 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — It has been learned that Syrian authorities have banned several Jordanian students who are studying in Syria from entering into Syrian territory. The Syrian authorities made the Jordanian students go back from the Syrian Dar'a border post to the Al-Ramtha border post. The Syrian authorities gave no reason for these measures, which affected 10 students.

AL-SAFIR Receives Islamic Jihad Threat Against U.S.

NC250600 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 24 Sep p 4 84

[Text] *AL-SAFIR* received a telephone call yesterday evening from an anonymous caller saying that he was speaking on behalf of the Islamic Jihad organization. The caller reaffirmed his organization's responsibility for the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in 'Awkar. He added that a big operation will soon be carried out against U.S. interests in retaliation for the martyrs of the Suhmur massacre.

Reportage on Cabinet Ministerial Conclave

Birri, Junblatt Comment

NC241224 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The Cabinet held its ninth ministerial conclave in Bikfayya at 1030 with all ministers attending.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami declined to make any statement at the end of the conclave at 1320. Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, said the discussions touched on the massacre committed in Suhmur, adding that the conferees dwelt on the ongoing contacts to bring about the release of the inhabitants who have been kidnapped by the Israeli forces and their agents. The contacts are being held by President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transport, and tourism, said the issue of Suhmur has topped all other issues during the conclave, adding that all agents must be terminated. Junblatt said: We ask the authorities and all officials to give an explanation regarding the 37 kidnapped persons. Junblatt said those who believed that the Suhmur issue would create a crisis of confidence were mistaken. These people should change their calculations, he added. Junblatt further said: All agents, whether Druze, or Shi'ites, or other sects, must be killed.

When asked who perpetrated the Suhmur massacre, Junblatt said: The matter is clear. The perpetrators are Lahd's agents. They committed the massacre and are accusing others. There are Progressive Socialist Party officials in Suhmur.

Further on Ministerial Conclave

NC241503 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Following a break over the weekend, the Cabinet today resumed its conclaves with a morning session at the Presidential Summer Residence in Bikfayya, chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil and attended by Prime Minister Karami and all members of the Cabinet.

At the opening of the morning session, Prime Minister Karami congratulated President Amin al-Jumayyil on the beginning of the 3d year of his term in office and expressed hope it might be a time of peace, security, and good health.

The conclave then turned its attention to subjects on the agenda, which included administrative decentralization, appointments to vacant positions, and expansion of parliament.

The Cabinet decided not to hold lengthy conclave meetings next week in order to give opportunity to newly appointed committees to meet and in order to allow the military command sufficient time to formulate security plans for mountain Lebanon in the light of recent Lebanese-Syrian talks.

Following the morning session, Finance Minister Camille Sham'un announced that 35 or 37 kidnapped people are being held in the Marj 'Uyun Barracks following the massacre in Suhmur. He stressed that they would be released.

Minister Joseph Skaf, who heads the Sahlah and west Al-Biqa'-Rashayya parliamentary bloc, stated after the meeting that the Suhmur massacre had been given full attention. He said that as a result, contacts with the International Red Cross, and the American ambassador, and the United Nations will be initiated in order to secure the return of wounded people now in Israeli hospitals and the release of prisoners. He said that recent shelling in the suburbs was also discussed. Mr Skaf said that militia leader Antoine Lahd claimed that he would release all people his men had kidnapped. He expressed regret that legitimate authorities could not reach Suhmur because of the Israeli siege of the town, but the government is pursuing other ways to deal with the problem.

Health and Communication Minister Joseph al-Hashim said that there were different views on questions raised, but indicated that another conclave session would be held on Wednesday.

Karami Makes Statement

NC241823 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The second session of the second round of ministerial conclaves, which was held at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya, ended at 1930 today. Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement after the session:

[Begin recording][Karami] The Cabinet discussed pending topics on its agenda. The ministers expressed their views on the solutions they envisage for these issues. It was decided that the ministers will reconvene in a conclave on Wednesday [26 September] to discuss the various options and to choose the most suitable in light of what was contained in the government policy statement. The Cabinet also approved cost of living increases.

The Cabinet also discussed the results of the Suhmur incidents. There are detainees and casualties. The town is still suffering from a siege and from the detention of many of its people. It was therefore decided to hold contacts with official quarters, particularly the International Red Cross and the U.S. Embassy, in order to ensure that the detainees and wounded return and that the siege of the town is lifted.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] and did you reach specific solutions to them?

[Karami] All these political subjects were discussed, and I already told you what happened during the conclave.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct]

[Karami] It was decided to include Minister Nabih Birri in the official delegation to the UN General Assembly.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct]

[Karami] We discussed this subject, and we appealed to the conflicting forces to stop this conflict, which does not serve Lebanon in any way but harms our attempts for salvation. We therefore hope that all the ministers will carry out this national duty. [end recording]

Birri, Junblatt Arrive in Damascus 24 Sep

NC241923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, and Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism, arrived in Damascus this evening. They will meet with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to review the results of the first day of the second round of ministerial conclaves.

Karami Makes Statement on Sumhur Incident

NC221240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Excerpts] A delegation from Suhmur went to the Government House and the UNESCO Building this morning to meet with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Education and Labor Minister Salim al-Huss. The delegation briefed Karami and Al-Huss on the massacre committed in Suhmur, on the results of the Israeli siege of the town, and on the suppressive and terrorist methods used against the people there.

After meeting the Suhmur delegation, Prime Minister Karami said the following:

[Begin Karami recording] We affirm to you that Suhmur and its people are a trust we all hold. The wound inflicted on this dear Lebanese town by the treacherous Israeli enemy is a wound inflicted on all Lebanon. Suhmur, like other Lebanese villages and towns that are standing up and struggling for their homeland's sovereignty and for the liberation of its territory from the filth of this occupation, deserves all credit because it participates with its people in this battle of dignity, right, and freedom. The government is therefore concerned. It discussed the matter during its conclaves when it was informed about it. Due to conflicting reports at the time, however, no official stand could be made. But now that the picture has become very clear, it has become possible to make statements.

We can see the reaction in Israel itself and in the whole world to this barbaric massacre. This is because the people's rights have many supporters, even though they have vicious enemies. By virtue of our confidence in our just struggle, in our sovereignty, and in our friends and brothers everywhere, we are sure that the liberation of our territory is near and that the Israeli enemy's withdrawal will take place sooner than many people imagine. In any case, may God have mercy on the martyrs. We cannot say more than that. All of us are equal in this battle. All of us are at God's mercy. We are facing an unmerciful enemy whose sectarianism and Nazi methods are clear to the whole world.

When we complained to the Security Council, we did so on the basis of such disgraceful practices. What has happened has happened, however, and we will continue to pursue our stand and policy until all of our country is liberated. [end recording]

Birri News Conference on Suhmur 'Massacre'

NC211615 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1308 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, held a news conference this afternoon on the Suhmur massacre.

Birri began by saying: Despite the fact that the blood spilled in Sabra and Shatila has not yet dried, Israel yesterday perpetrated another Dayr Yasin massacre in Suhmur. This new massacre claimed 13 dead and more than 15 wounded. Nothing is yet known about scores of detainees and kidnapped.

This massacre is not the first black mark and will not be the last in Israeli history. Minister Birri asked about the motives behind this massacre and said: Israel is unable to stay in the south. It wants to withdraw, but, Birri added, it is doing this along the old traditions of the Labor Party. The Labor Party inaugurated its schemes to pull out from the south by what it did in Kafr Milki and Suhmur.

Birri said it should be clear that there is no such thing as the southern Lebanese army. This so-called army is merely an integral part of Israel's Army and is subject to Israeli command. Hence, he said, Israel bears all responsibility.

The attempts to sow sedition in Lebanon and drive a wedge between the Shi'ites and the Druze are bound to fail for various reasons. These reasons, Birri said, are the following:

First, they are based on unfounded claims.

Second, there are no Druze or Shi'ites serving in Israel's army [of southern Lebanon]. Everyone serving in this army is acting on behalf of Israel and Israel alone should be blamed for what they do.

Third, it is not true that the military operation which killed some of the [army of southern Lebanon] soldiers took place in Suhmur. This is altogether incorrect. This is just a pretext by Israel and its agents in the area. The military operation in question was carried out 15 km away from Suhmur. Yet, we are not in the habit of disclaiming responsibility for resisting the Israeli enemy in the south.

Fourth, the dead among the army of southern Lebanon were not Druze. For example, one of them is a Shi'ite from Jibshit, named Husayn 'Ali al-Sayyid. The dead were not all Druze. This refutes the pretext given for the massacre.

I will take this painful opportunity to tell all the Lebanese brothers that Israel, from now on, is going to follow a new policy. It will be trying to sow sedition among the Lebanese. It will be trying to turn the Christian against the Muslim and the Muslims against each other. It will be trying to break up our society wherever it can.

This is something that we should face with more awareness, vigilance, and resistance. This is the way to liberate the south and Lebanon as a whole.

Birri was asked whether the massacre was an Israeli response to the ministerial conclaves.

He answered: Israel is probably thinking along the same line as the official U.S. spokesman who said that what took place in Suhmur and what happened to the U.S. Embassy prove that the Lebanese are disunited and that reconciliation is going nowhere.

This is a weird argument. It is funny how people can make pretexts out of precisely what they are doing to their adversaries.

Birri said: If we are not getting along well together, if Lebanese reconciliation is stumbling, it is because of U.S. policy in Lebanon and the Israeli presence in Lebanon.

Let Israel withdraw from Lebanon and Lebanese reconciliation will be only a matter of days.

Birri added: We made quite a few strides yesterday on the path of reconciliation. More strides will be made, God willing, as of next Monday. This is something we will prove. There is a real national need for reconciliation among the Lebanese. The march for reconciliation has already started.

Birri called on Israel to leave Lebanon at once. He replied to another question by saying that Israel is trying to repeat what it did in [the withdrawal from] the mountain. It is trying to divide the Lebanese in order to leave its mark on Lebanon, in case it is forced to withdraw.

Birri asked: How can Israel wash its hands of its responsibility and the responsibility of Lahd and how can Lahd dodge responsibility for what his soldiers did? Israel is merely taking advantage of continuous international support.

Birri called on the Lebanese to speed up their reconciliation in order to face what has become obvious in the wake of what happened in Sabra and Shatila and after the sedition fomented in the mountain and western Al-Biqa' and the sedition that Israel is trying to sow in Jizzin through the so-called independent Christian grouping.

Israel, Birri said, is out to divide the Lebanese. It wants to say that what it is doing is due to Lebanese disunity.

Skaf on Current Issues, Unification of Media

NC221453 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting minister of interior, received Editors' Association Chairman Milhim Karam and members of the association's council in his office this morning. The talks dealt with current developments.

Minister Skaf said that the plot against Lebanon is continuing and this is evident by the U.S. Embassy blast and the Suhmur massacre.

Minister Skaf said that the coming ministerial conclaves will discuss the completion of the Military Council, financial reform questions, the decentralization of administration, the appointment of deputies, and the economic situation.

Regarding the information media, Minister Skaf said that the unification of the official media requires a political decision and this is being drawn up. It includes closing down the private radios and merging the two television stations.

MTI Reports Hungarian Official's Visit to Beirut

LD212214 Budapest MTI in English 1737 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Beirut, September 21 (MTI) — Gyulu Horn, head of the MSZMP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] CC Foreign Affairs Department, paid a visit to Beirut September 18-21 on the invitation of the Lebanese Communist Party and met Secretary-General George Hawi, members of the Political Committee Karim Mroue and Joseph Abu Akl and other communist leaders. The parties held a comprehensive exchange on the activities of the two parties, topical questions of the international life with special regard to the Middle East region and the Lebanese situation and discussed ways and means of further strengthening contacts between the MSZMP and the Lebanese CP.

Gyulu Horn held discussions with leading representatives of Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party, the Amal movement, the Lebanese wing of the Ba'th Party, the National Socialist Party and the Lebanese Government.

Cease-Fire Reached in Iqlim al-Kharrub

NC241704 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Army and Phalangist artillery emplacements indiscriminately shelled villages in Iqlim al-Kharrub this evening, targeting residential areas and defenseless citizens. Barja and B'asir have been receiving concentrated artillery fire from Army and Phalangist positions in B'abda, Sibnay, Tall al-Za'tar, and Mukallis.

The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting at the racecourse. Jean Ghanim, Colonel Nasif, and Progressive Socialist Party representative Sa'id al-Dawi discussed the security deterioration in Iqlim al-Kharrub. The committee announced that a cease-fire agreement was reached and will go into effect at this time.

Phalangists Reportedly Storm Town, Make Arrests

NC250823 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0800 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Arrivals from the township of Al-Qammatiyah [near Suq al-Gharb] reported that a Phalangist force today stormed the town and arrested many citizens within the view of the 8th Brigade, which is stationed there and which did not prevent the action.

Contacts were held with the 8th Brigade to secure the release of the citizens.

The brigade, however, denied holding the citizens.

Implementation of Security Plan Begins in Tripoli

NC250538 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The implementation of the security plan for Tripoli began this morning.

Some parties withdrew their gunmen ahead of the zero hour from the areas which were the scene of clashes.

It is expected that the removal of barricades and fortifications on the contact lines will begin today.

This will be followed by the deployment of the Internal Security Forces and the Lebanese Army's 2d Brigade in various quarters of the town.

Bulldozers Remove Barricades

NC250825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The removal of barricades and fortifications in Tripoli has been continuing since the morning in implementation of the security plan stipulated in the Damascus agreement between the Islamic grouping and the Arab Democratic Party.

Bulldozers a short while ago removed barricades and obstacles in Tal'at al-'Umari and the vegetable market in Al-Tabbanah. Work has also begun on removing barricades in the direction of Al-Mallulah.

Internal Security Forces have begun deploying intensified patrols in all of Tripoli's quarters to preserve security.

S. Lebanese Army Captures Terrorist Cell

JN250912 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0600 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The south Lebanese army has uncovered a plan and broken a 12-man cell here in southern Lebanon in the 'Arab Salim and Rahyan area near Al-Nabatiyah. Seven of the 12 were locals from (Al-Sijud) village, and the other 5 had infiltrated across the Al-Awwali River into southern Lebanon helped by the locals.

The south Lebanese army found Katyusha rockets, 50 kg of explosives, other weapons, and RPG rockets. The captured terrorists admitted to a number of attacks on Israeli forces in south Lebanon over the last 9 months, including the firing of Katyushas at Israelis [word indistinct] one attack in the area of Rayhan as well. A number of attacks were admitted to by the group, whose members belong to the Amal Shi'ite organizations.

Reaction to Shamir's Remarks on U.S. Mediation

JN241333 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had made statements to newsmen and also to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* before leaving Israel for New York to attend the meetings of the UN General Assembly. In these statements, Shamir mentioned certain things that were intended to draw the attention of those concerned with the Middle East and to also give the impression that the Israeli Peres-Shamir government has brought something new and that it is the one that lays the rails for the train of the settlement of the Lebanese problems, especially those concerning the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories since June 1982. This is the gist of what Shamir said:

1. Israel rejects a UN role in the implementation of the resolutions concerning Lebanon, because, as he said, the United Nations does not have the adequate means for mediation between Syria and Israel concerning the Lebanese crisis.

2. Israel intends to request the United States to play the role of mediator with Syria to determine the conditions for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

3. Israel no longer insists on the simultaneous withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces from Lebanon.

The first observation of Shamir's statements is that these statements have come on the eve of the UN General Assembly meetings which will definitely consider a number of topics concerning Israel's aggression against Lebanon and the Arab countries as well as the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Among the draft resolutions which may be submitted to the current session of the General Assembly is the one calling for suspending Israel's membership in the world organization under the provisions of the organization's charter. It is difficult to overlook the link between Shamir's carefully prepared statements and the UN General Assembly meetings, a link which gives these statements a propaganda nature.

The second observation of Shamir's statements is that these statements have come amid increasing reports about Israeli military preparations on the ground and coordination contacts with the United States under different disguises, such as combatting terrorism, and also at the same time as Washington reports are saying that topics of a military nature will be raised during Reagan's meetings with Shamir and Peres. It is understood that Israel's rulers speak about peace whenever they are preparing for a new aggression.

Israel may need to embark on a new aggression to export its crises. It is also ready at all times to play its role as the strategic ally and aggressive instrument of the United States. But does the U.S. Administration, or rather President Reagan, want a military adventure in the last months of a presidential election year? This question will be answered by the developments of the next few days and weeks.

Let us now consider what Shamir has brought. Shamir refuses to give any role to the United Nations. This is because he does not want to achieve a solution to the subject of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. He outrightly rejects the UN resolutions, especially the Security Council resolutions concerning Israel's immediate complete and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. If Israel indeed wanted to withdraw from Lebanon, it would not have objected to the UN resolutions and role. It also would not have ignored the Lebanese-Israeli mixed armistice agreement which Lebanon and Israel had agreed upon in the past under UN supervision.

The second point in Shamir's statement is his attempt to give the impression that the issue in Lebanon is between Israel and Syria. This is an exposed and ill-intended ploy. Lebanese affairs are the concern of the Lebanese Government. If there has to be a mediator, that mediator should be between the invader, Israel, and the victim of invasion, Lebanon, to work out arrangements for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

There remains the point about not making a simultaneous Israeli and Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon conditional. Of coruse, there can be no comparison between the Israeli and Syrian presence in Lebanon. The Israeli forces, which are invader, aggressive forces, have been called upon by the United Nations to immediately withdraw from Lebanon. As for the Syrian forces, they have entered Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese authorities, and they will withdraw through agreement with these authorities and not with Israel. Syria has often announced that there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon once the last Israeli soldier has withdrawn from the Lebanese territories.

Al-Asad Receives U.S. Official Richard Murphy

JN241145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] At 1120 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs. The meeting was attended by Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister, and Mrs April Glaspie, the charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Damascus. During the meeting, they exchanged views on the situation in Lebanon, particularly matters concerning the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

Damascus TV Reports on Reagan's UN Speech

JN250635 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] President Reagan has delivered a speech at the 39th session of the UN General Assembly in which he spoke about important international issues and his country's relations with the USSR. He pointed out that these issues will be the subject of discussion between the USSR and U.S. foreign ministers during their meeting in the United Nations on Wednesday.

President Reagan announced in his speech his readiness to hold negotiations with the USSR. He proposed the holding of periodic meetings on the level of senior experts between the two countries to reduce tension and the danger of war and to discuss major issues.

Observers have recalled the U.S. Administration's rejection of all previous USSR proposals on major international issues and linked the proposals announced by Reagan in his speech with the election campaign he is currently waging to win another presidential term.

Al-Shar' Leaves for UN General Assembly

JN241819 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' left Damascus this afternoon leading Syria's delegation to the UN General Assembly's 36th session. On 1 October, he will deliver Syria's speech before the General Assembly. Also at the session, he will meet with the foreign ministers of the UN Security Council permanent member-states, the UN secretary general, and a large number of the foreign ministers of the fraternal and friendly countries.

New USSR Ambassador Makes Statement on Relations

JN241608 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow, 24 Sep (SANA) — New USSR Ambassador to Syria Fedotov has stressed that his country greatly appreciates Syria's heroic role under President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab region. In a statement to a SANA correspondent in Moscow, he said that the growing relations between Syria and the Soviet Union are becoming stronger in the political, economic, cultural, and military spheres in the service of the two friendly countries. He also added that these relations, which have existed for more than 40 years, are considered distinctive and strong. He also said that these relations are becoming stronger day after day.

The new USSR ambassador to Syria also pointed out that he would exert every effort to carry out the instructions of the Soviet political leadership concerning the deepening of these good relations, stressing that Syria is the only Arab state that stands in the trench of struggle, supports the Arab liberation movements, backs all nations' struggle in defense of their rights and independence, and seeks a lasting and just peace in the Middle East and the world.

Fedotov left Moscow for Damascus this morning to assume his duties as Soviet ambassador to Syria. He was seen off at the airport by Syrian Ambassador to the USSR Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi and a number of Soviet Foreign Ministry officials.

CSSR's Vlastimil Ehrenberger Leaves Damascus

JN241451 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] CSSR Fuel and Power Minister Vlastimil Ehrenberger left Damascus for Prague today after a 9-day visit to Syria. During the visit, he held talks with a number of officials on ways to develop and strengthen the existing cooperation between Syria and the CSSR.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Officials, Message

JN251148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] At 1300 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Michel Samaha, Lebanese presidential adviser, and Colonel Simon Kassis, chief of Lebanese military intelligence. The two officials delivered a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from President Amin al-Jumayyil on the situation in the Lebanese arena. President al-Asad asked them to convey a reply message.

Damascus Urges Arab Sanctions Against U.S.

JN211328 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, it has become obvious to all those interested in world policy and events that Israel poses the greatest threat to world peace, particularly since it has proven by actual practices that it is the greatest enemy of the United Nations and its specialized organizations. It has also become obvious that Israel challenges the world community only because the United States encourages it to do so and supports it with finances, arms, and stands that contradict the international concept of peace, rights, and justice.

It can be understood from the statement signed by French politicians [not further identified] and from UN deliberations that the world is required to adopt a stand that must stem from the United Nations' concern over safeguarding its power, importance, and ability to impose the international community's will. Since Israel has made the United Nations an organization of no value, world countries must express their position during the UN General Assembly's current session, particularly since they are well aware now that Israel not only defies the Arabs but also the entire world. With such defiance, Israel is acting like the Ku Klux Klan.

In fact, the Arabs shoulder direct responsibility for the weakness of the international stand. Friendship with the United States has ousted some Arab governments from the framework of confrontation with Israel, even inside the United Nations. Therefore, to have international will heeded, the Arabs must adopt a true stand with which they can confront the United States as they resolve to confront Israel.

It is obvious through the course of political events that the United Nations should this year consider the fact that Israel is pursuing its challenges and that the U.S. Administration is threatening to boycott the United Nations if the latter decides to penalize Israel. Given these two stands, an Arab decision to boycott and penalize the United states is inevitable.

The United States, which is allied with Israel and continues to plot against the Arabs and their cause, has become a rejected side, a party that is not so much concerned about peace as it is about supporting Zionist actions. Recently, the Zionist challenge emerged more obvious. The Zionist leadership rejected the truce agreement with Lebanon and considered it null and void. Furthermore, Israel considered the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan as Israeli territories that have been liberated. This Zionist leadership is currently planning with the United States new military strikes aimed at occupying more Arab territories.

Because the United Nations cannot curb Zionist aggression in view of the expected U.S. decisions, the Arabs must commit themselves to the only option — considering Washington the maker of every decision adopted by Israel. Thus, Washington must be subjugated to unanimous Arab sanctions.

The draft resolution which requested canceling Israel's membership in the United Nations and which was submitted to the General Assembly's seventh session must be resubmitted this year. If the votes of some Arab defeatists brought shame to the Arab resolution at the time, the lessons they have learned from U.S. stands must urge them to rectify their position and adjust the Arab course newly.

Since we are confident that the defeatists will be on the U.S. side and on the side of submission, the Arab masses must eject from their ranks those who benefited from the U.S. conspiracy by strengthening their plotting against Palestine and the Arab will for liberation and victory.

Press Cautions Against U.S., Israeli Moves

JN230833 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 23 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary today under the headline "Reagan's Administration Returns Its Forces to Lebanon," *AL-BA'TH* writes: Less than 24 hours after the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Reagan's administration decided to return militarily to the Lebanese coasts by sending three warships to the coasts of the Lebanese capital, as reported by the U.S. NBC Television Network. The same network said that these ships might carry out retaliatory operations if they were ordered to reply to the explosion.

AL-BA'TH continues: We will not discuss the explosion and its motives as reported by most Arab and world press which indicated that this incident was a direct reply to the U.S. stand that is continuously hostile to the Arabs. However, we would like to indicate and stress in this regard that at the time of the explosion, Israel and its agents in the south were perpetrating a horrible massacre that killed scores of innocent people in the village of Suhmur in southern Lebanon. As usual, the U.S. Administration has thus far not said a word about this criminal act. This means that if this administration did not take part in the massacre, at least it had its blessing.

Going back to the beginning, we say that 24 hours after the explosion, Reagan's administration decided to return its soldiers to Lebanon. This decision was preceded by calls urging Reagan to embark on retaliatory measures in Lebanon. This was accompanied by a telephone conversation between enemy war Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and U.S. war secretary Weinberger. In this conversation, Rabin expressed Israel's readiness to do all that it is requested to do. We the Arabs should view such actions as part of the multifaceted cooperation between Israel and the U.S. Administration.

Concluding, the paper says: Hence, if the Arab nation wants to foil the new scheme, which came after a series of defeats inflicted on the U.S.-Israeli hostile plans by Syria and the Arab nationalist forces, it must be more vigilant than ever before to confront and foil the new U.S. step. This nation should then work very seriously to rescue Lebanon and liberate the entire occupied Arab soil.

Under the headline "The Government of Two Terrorist Heads," *TISHRIN* writes: All recent developments in Israel indicate a premeditated aggression by the new double-headed Israeli Government. Although this intention to commit aggression has been the desire of all Israeli governments since Israel was created as a base for imperialism and a spearhead threatening Arab existence and destiny, this intention is today required as a means to heal the host of crises in the racist Zionist entity. The dilemma of the incurable economic situation, the crisis resulting from the failure of plans and hopes pinned on the barbaric invasion of Lebanon, and the deterioration of the domestic political situation may lead to a new aggression that unifies ranks, makes the Israelis forget the bad economic situation, and prompts the strategic allies and all Zionist sources of aid to extend further backing and support.

The paper adds: Syria did not and will not distinguish between one Israeli party and another. It was not taken in by the slogans and policies declared by the Labor Party during the elections although some Arabs and others who are interested in peace affairs regrettably wagered on these elections. We recall all this to draw the attention of all Arabs to the dangers of the stage and to prepare for confronting these dangers in the proper manner as is done by Syria, which is aware of its role as a base and a trench from which the nation confornts every new aggression, as well as the ambitions of the greedy and the schemes of the continuing plot against this nation's sacred cause.

Palestine Broadcast on Arab Hostility to U.S.

JN231031 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Palestine broadcast from the "On the Events" program]

[Text] Hostility to the United States is a fact that imposes itself on the Arab reality and has assumed many forms. Why does this hostility exist? The Americans must undoubtedly ask themselves such a question. Moreover, they will certainly find the answer within them. The hostility of world nations, including the Arab nation, is a natural reaction to the U.S. imperialist policy. The Arab world's hostility is increasing in light of the United States alliance with the Zionist entity, its continuous military and economic aid to it, its blind bias to this entity's aggressive policy at international forums, and its encouragement to this entity's crimes and its terrorist practices.

Such a policy that supports aggression and crimes make the United States a partner to Israel and completely responsible for Israel's crimes. Thus, since the United States shares with Israel the policy of crime and aggression, then it must undoubtedly reap with Israel the outcome of this policy — increasing Arab hostility and hatred and the Arabs' determination to resist the United States just as they are determined to resist the Zionist invasion of their countries. He who sows aggression, expansion, and hegemony cannot possibly reap olives. The fruit must match the seeds.

Throughout his reign as president of the United States, President Ronald Reagan has only sown seeds of aggression, expansion, and hegemony. He has never showed any bias toward the concept of justice and just peace; not even out of verbal flattery. Ronald Reagan may be the only U.S. President for scores of years who has not tried to give, even a casual, impression of his respect for the Arabs and their rights. He has not been quoted to make a promise that could reveal his interest in these rights or his respect for the Arabs and their sovereignty. However, he does not hesitate to reaffirm his blind support for the Zionists and his unlimited readiness to assist them.

Thus, Reagan is principally responsible for the Arabs' increasing hostility toward the United States and its interests in the region, even though he is only following the tradition of the previous successive U.S. Administrations by adopting a biased policy toward the Zionists.

Shamir, Al-Majid Meet at UN; Differences Remain

TA242116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir held a long meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid in New York this evening, telling him that the new government is interested in resuming the dialogue with Egypt and that Israel is displeased with the current state of relations. 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt, too, wants the dialogue renewed.

Our New York correspondent Razi Barqay reports that despite the good will, no understanding at all was reached on the disputed issues, including the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv, the Tabah problem, and the Palestinian issue.

Regarding the Lebanese issue, Shamir said that Israel intends to withdraw, and that on this subject there are no ideological differences between Israel and Egypt.

This was the first top-level meeting between representatives of the two countries since the beginning of the war in Lebanon, and although the two personalities expressed the hope that the dialogue would continue, no additional meetings have been set.

Further Details

TA250648 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The first meeting between the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers since the Lebanese war took place in New York last night. Yitzhaq Shamir and 'Abd al-Majid did not arrive at any understanding, but at the end of the meeting Israeli sources said that the cold peace may perhaps thaw. Razi Barqay reports from New York.

[Begin recording] [Barqay] No new ideas emerged from this meeting. The Egyptians even took pains to keep journalists at bay so as not to expose themselves to the cameras. However, Minister Shamir emphasized to us: Maybe there finally is a change in atmosphere.

Lebanon was on their agenda. Shamir explained that there are no ideological differences, as he phrased it, between Israel and Egypt regarding a withdrawal. Regarding the Palestinian issue, anti-Israeli reports in the Egyptian press, the question of Tabah, and the return of the ambassador to Israel, both parties reiterated their positions and there were no signs of a rapprochement.

[Shamir] We discussed all, or at least a significant number, of the aspects of our relationship. We explained our positions to each other. The general view was that we must continue to hold talks to deepen and strengthen peace relations between the two countries.

[Television correspondent Elimelekh Ram] Did you raise the question of the possible return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv?

[Shamir] Of course, this issue did come up.

[Ram] What was his reaction?

[Shamir] Well, this was not a talk to determine positions but to exchange ideas, opinions, proposals, and suggestions. We will raise these ideas with our respective governments and we will later make a decision.

[Barqay] Mr Shamir, did you set another meeting at any level whatsoever between us and the Egyptians?

[Shamir] We did not set any further meetings in our encounter, but I assume that they will take place.

[Barqay] Yitzhaq Shamir is using his stay in New York to meet heads of state and foreign ministers. Last night, he listened to President Reagan's speech at the UN General Assembly, which included a specific commitment by the White House to the peace plan of September 1982. Shamir's spokesman later issued an official announcement: The unity government rejects the Reagan plan. It is our position that the peace process must be based only on Camp David.

When we, the Israeli journalists, asked him whether he was sure that his announcement also reflected the view of the Alignment members of the government, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman replied: This position is that of the entire government. [end recording]

Peres, Weizman Meet Egyptian Envoy Basyuni

TA241639 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] This afternoon Prime Minister Peres met in Jerusalem with the senior Egyptian representative in Tel Aviv Muhammad Basyuni. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports:

The charge d'affaires, Basyuni, brought the prime minister a message from President Mubarak, expressing hope for a significant improvement in the relations between the two countries. At the meeting, which lasted 30 minutes, the prime minister conveyed his greetings to Mubarak and said he is confident that all problems between the two countries can be solved through direct contacts. The two men departed wishing each other *shana tova* [a happy new year] in Hebrew. Minister 'Ezer Weizman also attended the meeting.

As will be recalled, Basyuni met with Mr Peres in the middle of last week, after which he left for Cairo for several days of consultations and then returned. However, the prime minister's office refused to say if he brought with him an invitation to Prime Minister Peres or to Minister Weizman to visit Egypt.

Shamir, UK Foreign Secretary Meet; Visit Set

TA242119 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Following a meeting between Foreign Minister Shamir and the British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, it was decided that the latter will visit Jerusalem next month.

Murphy Visit Crucial for Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA241836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has arrived in Israel from Damascus. According to a senior Israeli official, the U.S. diplomat may be bringing news that could mean the beginning of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon within weeks. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

Richard Murphy arrived in Israel amid a flurry of statements by Israeli and American politicians on Lebanon and an Israeli withdrawal. In New York, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has repeated that an Israeli pullback is not contingent on a Syrian withdrawal. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz told reporters that the U.S. was ready to respond to Israel's call for help in resolving the issues, and President Reagan himself in a speech to the UN General Assembly has hinted at a new United States initiative on Lebanon.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived in Lebanon at the weekend ostensibly to look into the bombing of the U.S. Embassy there. But he had talks with Lebanese leaders concerning an Israeli withdrawal, and then moved on to Damascus for consultations there.

Beirut papers today quoted Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami as saying that the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon will not last long. I am confident of what I am saying, said Karami; it's been detected from the talks with Mr Murphy that he is bringing good tidings of an early breakthrough.

In Damascus, the U.S. official had a 2-hour meeting with President al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The official SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY said the talks focused on Lebanon and ways to bring about an Israeli withdrawal.

Now Mr Murphy is in Israel, and tomorrow will meet Prime Minister Peres, Defense Minister Rabin, and the director general of the Foreign Ministry, Dave Kimche. Last week the three had talks with UN Undersecretary General Brian Urquhart about an Israeli withdrawal and security arrangements for southern Lebanon. Urquhart said he detected a pragmatic approach to the issues in his talks with Lebanese, Syrian, and Israeli leaders. However, according to a well-informed source, it's the Americans who have been playing a leading background role in efforts to resolve the issues. Now they have moved onto frontstage.

Events of the last 10 days have given a big push, a senior Israeli official told me tonight. He described Murphy's arrival here as a crucial stage in efforts to secure security arrangements in south Lebanon and an Israeli withdrawal. Everything now depends on what news he will be bringing from his talks in Beirut and Damascus. If there are positive answers to suggestions that have been raised, the start of an Israeli withdrawal could be only a matter of weeks away, says my source.

The first stage, apparently, would focus on the Al-Biqa' valley, where Syrian and Israeli trooops have been manning an edgy cease-fire line. UN forces and possibly Lebanese Army troops are likely to be involved in supervising an Israeli pullback and taking over Israeli positions. The situation, however, should become clearer after Mr Murphy talks tomorrow with Israel's leaders.

'Adequate' Security Sought

TA250842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0828 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is currently meeting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy. The meeting is attended by Moshe Arens and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche. U.S. sources told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that it is still premature to refer to Murphy's visit as a mediation mission between Israel and Syria, and that for the time being it can only be termed a clarification of positions.

Murphy conferred this morning with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that in the meeting the defense minister stated, among other things, that Israel is prepared to withdraw from Lebanon on the condition that adequate security arrangements are reached. At the end of his talks in Israel, Murphy will depart for Jordan and Egypt.

Rabin Warns Against Optimism

TA251012 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0954 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has made it plain that his mission in the Middle East is merely an exploratory tour. Murphy completed a meeting with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Minister Arens, and the director general of the Foreign Ministry a short time ago. Murphy told correspondents that the United States is ready to assist in finding an arrangement in Lebnaon. This was and remains the U.S. position, Murphy noted. He pointed out that all he had done in his talks in Beirut, Damascus, and Jerusalem was to hear out the positions of the pertinent sides.

At the end of the meeting in Jerusalem, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin cautioned against excessive optimism regarding the chances for a speedy arrangement in Lebanon. Mr Rabin also emphasized the fact that Murphy's mission was exploratory in nature. According to Rabin, the talks the U.S. envoy has been holding in Israel are in no way whatsoever a mediation mission. During his visit in Israel, Rabin said Murphy was briefed on the positions of the national unity government regarding an arrangement in Lebnaon.

Foreign Ministry Says Reagan Plan Unacceptable

TA242109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The Reagan plan is unacceptable to the Israeli Government, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said this evening in reaction to President Reagan's address to the UN General Assembly meeting in New York.

The spokesman said that the U.S. President's statement contains nothing new, as he has been consistent in adhering to his peace initiative. The unity government's position is that the road to peace should be founded on the Camp Accords alone.

Prime Ministry Clarifies Stand

TA250636 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] A clarification was issued by the prime minister's office this morning to the effect that the Alignment had never rejected President Reagan's initiative to renew the peace contact in the Middle East, but had never accepted the specifics of the Reagan plan proper. The Alignment's position was that there was no sense in arguing over the specifics of the plan as long as there were no real contacts with the opposite party.

The clarification was issued after MAPAM and other elements expressed astonishment at the Foreign Ministry spokesman's remarks in New York on Israel's continued rejection of the Reagan plan, which are incompatible with the Alignment's position prior to the elections.

Peres Reiterates Position

TA250817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this morning explained that the national unity government had not discussed President Reagan's proposals on the Middle East presented 2 years ago. A communique issued by the prime minister's office states that the decision of the Israeli Government at that time to reject Reagan's proposals was made immediately after they were raised and in the circumstances existing then.

Our correspondent was told this morning that prior to the elections, the Alignment had rejected the specifics of Reagan's plan but not his initiative to renew the contacts to promote peace. This clarification came after MAPAM and other elements expressed astonishment at the foreign minister's statement in New York reiterating opposition to the Reagan plan, which they considered ran counter to the Alignment's position.

Finance Minister Announces Economic Measures

TA231535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1237 GMT 23 Sep 84

[News conference with Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i in the finance minister's office in Jerusalem immediately following the weekly Cabinet session on 23 September, introduced by economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik — live]

[Text] [Sukenik] The finance minister has begun detailing the measures he has decided to implement. He began by reviewing a series of measures aimed at reducing the amount of money in circulation through the application of income taxes. Let us now link up with the finance minister:

[Moda'i — picked up in mid-sentence] ...between employer and employee, as well as between the person who supplies the services and the one who receives them will not be considered as income earned by the latter on the condition that the interest applied to it is 396 percent, the current customary rate of interest for such purposes. We will implement rules and regulations concerning the tax on loans and fringe benefits in employer-employee relations and extend them to include the major stockholder of a firm as well. Our estimate is that these measures will reduce the amount of money in circulation by at least $150 million yearly.

All these measures have been approved by the Cabinet, and we are currently busy formulating regulations that will allow us to implement them.

The second issue, also approved by the Cabinet in principle and whose details will soon be worked out by the ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs has to do with taxes on vehicles, equipment, stock, and commercial buildings. Within the framework of the policy to decrease the money supply from all public sectors, the following taxes will be imposed on a one-time basis — and, I emphasize, on a one-time basis: taxes on vehicles, sailing vessels, aircraft and on equipment, stock, and commercial buildings. The tax on vehicles will be imposed by the Transportation Ministry's Licensing Department and the average price of the vehicle will be assessed by production year, engine capacity, type of vehicle, and so forth. This tax will be imposed just once but it will be collected in installments. It is our belief that it will impose a burden on the relatively more well-off classes of the population. The tax will also be imposed on private sailing vessels and aircraft.

The tax on equipment, stock, and commercial buildings will be imposed on a marginal basis and its extent will vary with each of these categories. It will be imposed on the commercial sector on a one-time basis. As I said, the specifics of this tax will be worked out by the ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs. What we have already decided is that this tax will range from 0.0 percent [as heard], or a little bit over that, but will not exceed 2 percent. The Income and Property Tax Department will be responsible for implementing, enforcing, and collecting these taxes. It is estimated that these taxes will amount to several hundred million dollars.

The third issue I would like to raise is that we will cut subsidies. I will say it from the outset that this move may be difficult in the beginning, but it is our belief that it will curb the government's injection of money which fuels inflation.

Next, we are in the midst of the process of cutting the state budget. The cut will amount to $1 billion and will be completed as early as this week. As you know, this issue will not be raised again or appealed to the Cabinet. Ministers who have reservations about the stipulations or proposals of the Finance Ministry have been meeting with a committee headed by the prime minister and composed of the alternate prime minister and the economics and planning minister. To date we have concluded, either directly with the various ministries or through the mediation of this committee, the stipulations of over half the ministries which represent over half of the budget cuts. This applies to the Defense Ministry, the Health Ministry, and the Agriculture

Ministry. We are about to complete the handling of this issue with the Housing and Construction Ministry and the local authorities concerning roads, and the Ministries of Communications, Energy, Transportation, Industry and Trade, the Broadcasting Authority, and the Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Police and the Prime Minister's Office.

There are ongoing deliberations with several ministries, and their cases will apparently be raised with the special ministrial committee headed by the prime minister. This applies to the issues of education and culture, higher learning, national insurance, religious affairs, water and settlements.

In keeping with Israeli law, we also asked the president of the state, the Knesset speaker, and the state's comptroller to suggest cuts in their budgets because, as is known, these budgets do not undergo the Treasury's customary administrative process.

I would like to make two more observations regarding this move: From what I have said so far it must be clear that we are now in for a period in which the cuts in the state budget and the reduction of money in circulation I described to you today will lead to an economic situation that will enable us to adopt direct measures to curb inflation. The importance of curbing inflation is clear to everybody. Until inflation is curbed, it will be impossible to secure either the balance of payments or especially economic growth. Therefore, this will be our next main objective. At the same time, we will devote attention to seeing that the balance of payments is not adversely affected.

Before you ask me, I will tell you that these moves include measures which will contribute slightly to increasing inflation. However, in these cases, we have taken into account the advantage of reducing money in circulation as opposed to the disadvantage of the marginal affect on the Consumer Price Index or the rising rate of inflation. We concluded that the net result, although marginal, would also help curb inflation.

Allow me to add a final remark: Our internal economic situation is a fact but, as is known, the Israeli economy needs extensive foreign aid. To those who supply this aid, be they governments or a specific government or Jewish elements throughout the world, we owe this economic recovery. I say that we owe it to them because they are watching what is happening in Israel, and if we do not take upon ourselves the burden of recovery, they might, God forbid, reconsider the aid they extend to us. This is well-known and is no secret.

To conclude my remarks, I would like to express my evaluation and hope that even if we do not see any real effect of this reduction in money on inflation and the Consumer Price Index in the next few weeks — which I must say is very unlikely — the very fact that we are preparing the basic conditions for the application of direct measures to initially curb and then reduce inflation is considered by many economists to be the right move. This would have been the right move even if conditions had existed to fight inflation directly. Anyway, there are theoretically two schools of thought. However, I do not want to conceal that these conditions have not yet been created and that is why we had no choice but to take this path which many academicians and economists support. They argue that the basic economic conditions must be prepared and only then should direct measures be imposed.

[Sukenik] Mr Finance Minister, we are broadcasting this news conference live. Could you elaborate on when and how much the prices of subsidized commodities will rise?

[Moda'i] No, I cannot reply on this matter either in live or other transmissions.

[Moderator in the studio] Well, we have been listening to the news conference held by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i. We heard about a one-time taxation on vehicles, sailing vessels and aircraft, a cut in subsidies and a $1 billion cut in the state budget. Gadi, did we miss any of the minister's remarks before we began our broadcast?

[Sukenik] No, you did not miss anything. He just gave a few technical and complicated details about the reduction of money in circulation through income taxes. We heard the main things in the live transmission, including the minister's refusal to elaborate on when and to what extent subsidies will be cut.

New Measures, U.S. Aid Viewed

TA240727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Avi Temkin report]

[Text] Announcing a series of new taxes, price rises, and other austerity measures yesterday, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i conceded that these alone would not solve the country's problems, and would probably lead to a speeding of inflation in the short term.

Moda'i said that the steps were "preparatory" to an overall economic plan that would deal directly with inflation. "I did not get what I wanted — namely a price-wage freeze and a package deal agreement — but later we will sign such an accord, after the conditions are fit for it," he said.

Moda'i said that the steps being implemented were designed to absorb funds from the public.

According to the minister, he had got the Cabinet's unanimous approval for the package he had presented, including the $1 billion cut from the budget.

Later the minister indicated that the $1 billion figure relates to the entire fiscal year, but since some half of this has already passed, the effective cut for this year will be smaller.

According to Treasury officials, the implementation of the plan to impose the income surtax and the compulsory loan agreed upon with the Histadrut will not begin with September's salaries as planned, but will probably have to wait until October salaries are paid at the start of November. According to ministry estimates, the surtax and the loan will bring some $80 m. [million] to the Treasury.

The planned cut in the government budget includes a $350 million slash in subsidies, which can be considered an increase in the tax burden, since subsidies are usually considered negative taxes.

The ministers estimated that the tax on cars, machines and inventories would bring in some hundreds of millions of dollars.

In addition, the Treasury expects to get some $150 million in the current fiscal year from measures it will introduce to increase income-tax collection.

Thus the package of measures decided upon by the Cabinet yesterday totals some $1.5 b. [billion] of this, about $550 m. will come from new taxes, $350 m. from subsidies and the rest from the cuts in the budget.

Moda'i said that he had not yet made up his mind about a planned trip to the U.S. at the beginning of October. He added that during such a trip he would not ask for additional aid, but "only for a change in arrangements." He declined to elaborate on this change, but according to economic observers, he was hinting at Israel's request to the U.S. to get all the aid for 1985 as a lump sum in October.

Moda'i indicated that he would raise the issue of additional aid during a second trip after the austerity plan decided on by the government was implemented. Moda'i denied that the report on Israel's economy appearing this week in *EUROMONEY* had anything to with the Cabinet's decision. The steps were planned before the report appeared, he said.

During the Cabinet meeting Moda'i was harshly criticized for what some of his fellow ministers called the lack of a coherent economic plan. Ministers criticized the small cuts in the budget, while others attacked the proposed taxes on cars and machinery.

Blasting the new tax proposals were Ministers Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman and Yiga'el Hurvitz, Science and Technology Minister Gid'on Pat, Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev and Justice Minister Moshe Nisim. Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Arens again criticized Moda'i for not presenting a clear economic plan but only steps that he said will raise inflation. Similar remarks were made by Arens last week, at a special Cabinet meeting.

Coming to the defence of Moda'i, Prime Minister Peres said that the steps being taken were the best in the present cituation. He admitted tha it would have been better to clinch a price freeze agreement, but said that such an accord was not possible now.

Details of New Plan Publicized

TA230747 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Sep 84 p 1

[Avi Temkin report]

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i announced on Friday that his economic plan includes new taxes and a reduction in subsidies and welfare payments in addition to the planned cuts in the government budget. The new taxes will be imposed on top of the 10 percent surcharge agreed to by the Histadrut on Thursday.

Last night the Treaury's senior staff met with Moda'i at his home to discuss the plan, which is to be presentended today to the Cabinet.

During last week, Moda'i was criticized by some of his fellow ministers who claimed that the new finance minister had not given them a concrete plan, but only a collection of measures without any clear connection between them.

According to government sources the package that Moda'i will present will include budget cuts; the imposition of property tax; a cut in subsidies for basic commodities that could total up to $350 million; and the proposed surcharge and compulsory loan to be imposed from next month.

The Treasury said that the major part of the $1 billion package of budget cuts is already agreed on by all ministries, except for the Education Ministry.

Moda'i will meet today with Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon, and if no accord is reached the decision on the amount to be slashed will be referred to a committee composed of Moda'i, Prime Minister Peres, Vice Premier Shamir and Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi.

According to Treasury sources the cuts in the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry and the Defence Ministry budgets have been decided on. The budget of the former will be cut by $50 million, instead of $170 m. as planned by the Treasury, and the difference between the two figures will be partly covered by a larger than planned cut in subsidies.

However, Labour and Welfare Minister Moshe Qatzav and Histadrut representatives agreed on Friday to cooperate in the struggle against cuts in the welfare budget. "I see eye to eye with the Histadrut on the issue of welfare, and we both agree that neither children's allotments nor old-age allotments should be cut," Qatzav said.

The Histadrut delegation, led by Central Committee member Naftali Ben-Moshe, initiated the meeting to express the labour federation's opposition to the Treasury's proposals that allotments for the first two children be abolished and old-age payments be cut.

Ben-Moshe stressed that the government has no right to "tamper" with the money and rights "of those who finance the National Insurance Institute [NII]." The Histadrut representatives asked Qatzav to convene a meeting of the NII executive to discuss the Histadrut's demands.

Regarding the defence budget, that Ministry indicated that some $80 million will be axed during the current fiscal year, and a further $220 m. in fiscal 1985/86. But after this announcement was made Defence Ministry officials said that the only cut which was agreed on was the $80 m.

On Friday, Peres, Ya'aqobi and Moda'i met with a delegation of representatives of the Manufacturers' Association headed by its president, Eli Hurwitz. After less than an hour of deliberations the sides decided to renew their talks today.

Hurwitz said after the meeting that the surcharge will fuel inflation.

According to government sources the industrialists rejected a proposal that a special team examine the latest wave of price increases to see if they were justified or if they should be reduced.

Deputy Premier David Levi said on Qol Yisra'el [Voice of Israel] yesterday the inflationary tax law for companies should be repealed immediately, because it gives some sectors of the economy a legal way not to pay taxes. Levi, who said he has already proposed this officially, raised the issue in answer to a radio interviewer's question about whether it was right to raise the tax burden on wage earners.

The decision to levy a special tax, or compulsory loans, on income is exactly the opposite of what needs to be done, Hebrew University Economics Professor Hayim Barqay said during a brief interview on Israel Television Friday evening.

"I don't understand the Histadrut agreeing to it," he said. "Ostensibly it is progressive, but we all know that there are many people who do not pay the taxes they owe. Wage earners have no choice but to pay, and they will pay this time, too. Those who did not pay before will not pay the new tax either."

Long-Term Effects Unknown

TA241002 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Too Much and Too Little"]

[Text] The new government has displayed laudable haste in addressing itself to the economic crisis. However, if anybody thought that sheer hectic activity amounts to coming closer to solutions, then yesterday's government resolutions should teach him better.

The upshot of these resolutions is an effort to curb aggregate demand. A whole series of new taxes and levies is to mop up purchasing power from the public, and cuts in government expenditures are to reduce public sector demand.

However, the cuts in government spending, which is the key variable in any policy meant to halt the mad inflationary race, will be much less than the Treasury thought was the necessary minimum — and that was half of what the economics profession thought was needed. Defence expenditure, for example, is to be cut, on paper, by $300 million, which would correspond to the proportional share of defence in total government spending. However, for the next half year the cut is to be no more than $80 million, and the remaining $220 million are to be pared off only in the next fiscal year. What is true for defence is largely true for other cuts in government operations.

In the immediate cuts in government spending, the slashing of the subsidies to basic products will account for the lion's share — and that is no reduction of government operations, but is tantamount to a tax — in a magnitude that is nearly equivalent to what the government expects to collect from all the other new taxes together.

The *ultima ratio* of the package of economic measures adopted yesterday is to boost inflation to as much as twice its present, already uncontrollable level of 400 percent a year. A price and wage freeze, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i made plain, will have to wait until the conditions for it are ripe — until, that is to say, aggregate demand is curbed so that market forces will restrain prices.

The big question is whether the measures now taken will lay the groundwork for curbing inflation at some later, still unspecified date. If at 400 percent per annum, inflation has run out of control, as has recently been admitted even by government officials, it is, to say the least, extremely doubtful that it will become more controllable by being pushed to close to 1,000 percent a year.

The talks about a so-called package deal are still going on, but it is evident that any trilateral agreement between the government, the employers and the Histadrut has been put off to the Greek calends. The government has decided to jack up taxes across a broad front and the industrialists have responded with a flat no to any idea of a price freeze. The only "advance" on account of economic stabilization so far has been paid by the Histadrut, by its acceptance of the surtax on income which will be collected mainly from wage earners, and its tacit agreement to the rest of the package of economic measures decided yesterday, most of which will also fall most heavily on wage earners.

It is undeniable that the state of our economy has reached an impasse in which there may be no other way out. Any talk of a price freeze when demand and liquidity are high, Professor Hayim Barqay said last week, is pure balderdash. True enough — for an administrative, or even a voluntary, price freeze must be backed up by choking off demand, or by the ability to flood the market with competitive imports.

Election economics, and the squandering of a third of our foreign currency reserves, have seen to it that the latter possibility is ruled out. We do not have the foreign currency resources to use imports as a control mechanism on prices. And if prices cannot be held in check, the government cannot stop the devaluation process, and no wage freeze can be expected beyond the constant wage erosion implicit in the existing cost-of-living agreement.

The critical state of our foreign payments position has been put under a glaringly harsh searchlight by *EUROMONEY*, the prestigious London-based financial monthly which carried what amounts to a devastating report on Israel's economy. In the report we were excluded from the list of 116 countries regarded as able to repay their debts, and were characterized as having done worse last year, economically, than any another country except Bolivia.

If the sorry state of the economy has reduced the choices open to the government, then the weaknesses inherent in the national unity government itself impose further constraints. Economic decisions of the kind that have become imperative, require major decisions on natinal priorities with regard to settlements, defence and foreign policy. In all these areas the national unity government is reduced to virtual immobility. It will soon become apparent that the political stalemate will also make itself felt with regard to the distribution of the economic burden. The attacks already launched by the Likud faction in the Histadrut on Secretary-General Yisra'el Qeysar for agreeing to the surtax is a harbinger of what is yet to come.

The government's fire-test will be the next two or three months. If it does, against all odds, succeed in really curbing demand, it may have a chance of steering the economy half-way towards stability. If no, chaos may soon stare us in the face.

Histadrut Concerned

TA241226 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] There was shock and anger in the Histadrut today following the announcement by the government last night of new austerity measures. Last week the two sides seemed close to reaching agreement on a price freeze and package deal, but that possibility now seems to be receding. With more details, reporter Tony Gadot in Tel Aviv:

The Histadrut is concerned that the recent austerity measures imposed by the government will prove to be an obstacle to reaching agreement on a price freeze and package deal agreement. Secretary General of the Histadrut Yisra'el Qeysar said today that the government must not think for one moment that the Histadrut is prepared to accept blindly any or all of their economic measures. Many workers will be badly hit by the new taxes, levies, and reductions in subsidies, he said, and until the government is prepared to ensure a reasonable standard of living for those people, there is no possibility of reaching agreement on a package deal.

The Histadrut has demanded that the government honor all work agreements and cost of living agreements signed with the previous government, that the government guarantee the revision of income tax brackets every time a cost of living increment is paid, that old age pensions and child allowances be paid in full, and that the government take steps to find and prosecute tax evaders. Qeysar confirmed that the Histadrut preserves the right to react in any way it sees fit to safeguard the worker and his place of employment. In anticipation of a conflict between the government and the Histadrut, Qeysar has called on the Histadrut's Action Committee to convene and prepare for any eventuality.

Prices To Rise by 18-55 Percent

TA231718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] As of midnight, the prices of basic commodities will increase by 18 to 55 percent. The prices of bread, cooking oil, dairy products, and eggs will increase by 18 percent; chicken and frozen meat by 30 percent and margarine by 55 percent. Even in the wake of this price rise, foodstuffs will still be subsidized by more than 100 percent. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the increase in the prices of basic commodities will push up the Consumer Price Index, which is estimated to reach over 20 percent this month and 30 percent or even more next month. The finance minister has promised to discuss ways to compensate people who receive national insurance allowances for these price hikes.

Fuel Prices Rise by 30 Percent

TA240736 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
24 Sep 84 p 1

[Aharon Sittner report]

[Excerpt] The price of cooking gas rose at midnight from IS2,904 to IS3,775 for a 12-kilogram balloon. The price of 91 octane petrol went up from IS181 to IS236 a litre.

These are some of the new prices of fuel, which rose by an average of 30 percent, after Energy Minister Moshe Shahal announced that in consultation with the Treasury, government subsidization of petrol, cooking gas and other fuel has been ended.

"From now on," he said, "fuel prices here will reflect the true cost on the world markets, translated into shekels."

Health Ministry Agrees to Cuts

TA211707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] The health budget will be slashed by $55 million, as per the Treasury's request. This was concluded in a meeting between the prime minister, the health minister, and other officials from the Health Ministry. Minister Mordekhay Gur told our correspondent Karmela Menashe after the meeting that the prime minister accepted his position that no changes be introduced in the tax collection system, that no levies at all be imposed on health services, and that the standard of medical treatment not be affected. The details of the cuts will be determined in meetings between the Health Ministry, the Histadrut and the sick funds.

Communications Budget Cut

TA241759 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1745 GMT 24 Sep 84

["Announcement by the Communications Ministry Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 24 Sep (ITIM) — An agreement was reached today in meetings held between the top officials of the Communications Ministry, headed by the communications minister; members of the Knesset Finance Committee; and the most senior officials from the Finance Ministry, led by the finance minister. Thus, the Communications Ministry budget will be slashed by 800 million shekels in fiscal year 1984/1985. The cuts are connected with the postal service and various development projects in the postal service and the postal bank. It was also agreed that some of the development projects planned for the Bezek [telephone] company will be frozen this year and next year. The Communications Ministry directorate will soon decide precisely which articles and services the cuts will affect.

Energy Ministry Cuts Budget

TA251219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The Energy Ministry has decided to cut its budget by 900 million shekels, which represents approximately 10 percent of its development budget. Almost half this sum will be slashed from the Dead Sea Canal project, and a third will be slashed from the allocation for research on the construction of nuclear power stations. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that the energy ministry finalized this matter with the finance minister.

Moda'i Arrives in U.S. Next Week

TA241022 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Sep 84 p 1

["Exclusive" Tzvi Bar'el report from Washington]

[Excerpt] Finance Minsiter Yitzhaq Moda'i will arrive in Washington early next week. It is expected that by then the complete economic plan will be prepared.

Concessions Made in Free Trade Zone Talks

TA241159 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 24 Sep 84 p 4

[Tzvi Timor report from Washington]

[Excerpts] Israel has made far-reaching concessions in the free trade zone negotiations with the United States and has withdrawn from its initial positions. Among other things, Israel waived its opposition to signing a subsidy code.

According to U.S. sources, Israel waived its opposition to signing a "subsidy code," a code which allows the granting of export incentives. Israel also made concessions regarding the gradual lowering of its tariffs. Well-informed circles say that at present it is not at all clear whether the agreement still serves the interest of the Israeli economy or whether it harms it. In any event, nobody except for Gid'on Pat and his men have examined the issue and the government has not decided on it yet.

In the event that the two houses of Congress fail to approve the agreement within 2 weeks, the issue will be postponed until after the U.S. election. It appears that then the issue will be "reopened."

'Adi Amoray Appointed Deputy Finance Minister

TA241817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Knesset Member 'Adi Amoray has assumed his post as deputy finance minister with responsibility for the capital market, which includes dealing with banks, savings, insurance and foreign currency. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik says that Amoray will be responsible for contacts with the Knesset and its committees; he will also be in charge of one of the Ministry's departments, such as the Civil Commission or the Government Corporations Authority. It has been decided that Amoray will be a full partner in all economic debates and in working out policy.

Deputy Knesset Speakers, Committee Heads Named

TA241926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The Knesset plenary session a short while ago approved the appointment of four deputy Knesset speakers: Aharon Nahmias and Dov Ben-Me'ir of the Alignment, and Eli'ezer Shostak and Me'ir Kohen-Avidov of the Likud.

Two more deputy Knesset speaker positions are reserved for representatives of the Tehiya and MAPAM, but these parties have announced that they will boycott the work of the Knesset because of the attitude of the two large parties toward them. MAPAM and the Tehiya claim they are each entitled to head a Knesset committee as well as hold the post of deputy Knesset speaker. But the two large factions have not complied with their claim.

The Knesset is now approving the makeup of the Knesset committees. There will be some new chairmen: Nahman Raz at the Knesset Education Committee, Mikha'el Reisser at the House Committee, Ora Namir at the Knesset Labor and Welfare Committee, and David Liba'i at the Knesset Public Audit Committee.

Parties Announce Knesset Appointments

TA241233 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Refa'el Edri has been elected chairman of the Labor Party Knesset faction, replacing Moshe Shahal, who has been appointed energy minister. Hayim Kaufman, Likud, will be the coalition chairman. Knesset Member [MK] Mikha'el Reiser, Herut, will be chairman of the Knesset House Committee; Dov Shilansky will be chairman of the Knesset Internal Affairs Committee; and Eli Kulas will be chairman of the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee.

The Liberal faction of the Likud will be given three representatives on the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and three on the Knesset Finance Committee. There will also be a Liberal representative on the Knesset presidium and heading three subcommittees: Uri'el Linn, chairman of the Knesset Energy Committee; Pinhas Goldstein, the chairman of the Knesset Sports Committee; and Ari'el Weinstein will apparently be the chairman of the joint committee for the defense budget.

The Knesset discussions will be resumed at 1600 [1400 GMT], and it is hoped that by then all the parties will finish choosing their representatives.

Knesset Fails To Name Committee Heads

TA242040 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] After a 12-hour session the Knesset did not succeed in establishing its committees and its Presidium. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that the Knesset plenary session this evening approved the makeup of the committees and their meeting rooms. But the election of committee chairmen was prevented at the last minute because of the continuing controversy between the Alignment and the Likud about who will head the Economic Committee. The Likud wants to have this position so that Yig'ael Kohen-Orgad can head it, and the Likud is ready to propose in return that the Alignment head the Absorption Committee. The Alignment does not agree. Therefore, the committees were not convened and no chairmen were elected. It was agreed that the final decision will be made on 1 October. Thus the Knesset recessed without establishing its bodies.

Government Working on Security Options in Lebanon

TA251120 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Sep 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Refa'el Mann, Ya'aqov Erez, 'Oded Granot, and Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem has begun formulating a new plan for security arrangements in southern Lebanon which would enable a withdrawal of IDF troops, along with the reestablishment of "red lines" acceptable to both Israel and Syria and the inclusion of UNIFIL and local elements which would preclude the resumption of terrorist operations against the northern settlements.

Israel hopes the plan may be attained through U.S. mediation efforts after U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz expressed willingness to resume U.S. diplomatic activities in a bid to achieve an arrangement in Lebanon.

According to knowledgeable sources, ideas for the plan are now being formulated and lengthy deliberations will be required to finalize its specifics. Prime Minister Peres and Defense Minister Rabin have in the past voiced their intention of giving top priority to enabling an IDF pullout while securing the well-being of the Galilee settlements.

The principle of "red lines" between Israel and Syria, which was maintained until the outbreak of the Lebanese war in June 1982, stipulated the boundaries beyond which Syria could not oeprate. Current discussions are about resuming the agreement in principle with the Syrians on this issue but with a possible adjustment of the boundaries, taking into consideration the conditions created in wake of the war. Jerusalem hopes to reach an agreement on having UNIFIL play a central role in the eastern sector by preventing terrorist infiltrations into the border areas, coupled with an understanding on this matter with the Syrians.

The new plan being formulated in Israel also allocates a role to the army of southern Lebanon commanded by General Antoine Lahd, but a more "modest" one than that envisaged by the previous government — both in terms of its duties and its geographical deployment. According to one of the proposals under discussion, the army of southern Lebanon would operate only in areas where it enjoys the support of the local population. In other areas, particularly those inhabited by a Shi'ite majority, an attempt would be made to conclude arrangements with other local forces.

Ilia: Liaison Unit Helps Lebanese Help Themselves

TA241300 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Sep 84 p 25

[Ya'ir 'Amiqam report]

[Excerpts] The Israeli liaison unit in Lebanon was established in order both to aid the inhabitants of southern Lebanon and create conditions to allow them to help themselves, by encouraging the local Lebanese institutions functioning on behalf of the central administration in Beirut to carry out operations aimed at improving the welfare of the population. In this regard, the Civilian Administration is responsible for all nonmilitary aid operations ranging from trade to health care for the inhabitants.

"We do not aim to replace the Lebanese Administration," says Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia, the head of the liaison unit, "but rather to help the inhabitants overcome daily problems. If, in the long run, we are interested in creating a security zone on the northern side of our border, we are obligated, from the moral point of view, to aid the inhabitants of southern Lebanon. This is particularly true in light of the good relations with them which have developed as a result of our common interest: the maintenance of calm on both sides of the border in order to allow the inhabitants to live in peace and quiet."

IDF To Tighten Control of Army of South Lebanon

TA241846 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] IDF officers will tighten their control of the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon following the massacre in the village of Suhmur. This was said by IDF Liaison Unit Commander Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia.

He told reporters that it was decided to integrate IDF commanders into the units of the army of southern Lebanon and to prevent this army from carrying out some of the routine security missions that had been entrusted to them. In spite of this he believes that the army of southern Lebanon is a good army and that one abberation should not provide the basis for generalizing about all the soldiers.

Brig Gen Ilia also believes that the liaison unit under his command will remain in southern Lebanon for a long period, even if the other IDF units are evacuated.

It has also been reported that several dozen commanders of the army of southern Lebanon today attended a course on preventing incidents such as the one in Suhmur.

Lahd's Army Captures Shi'ite 'Terrorist' Squad

TA242122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The army of southern Lebanon has captured a terrorist squad whose members belong to the Shi'ite Al-Amal organization, which has carried out many terrorist acts against the IDF. The squad was active mainly around the vicinity of 'Arab Salim. It was captured together with five Katyusha rockets they had planned to launch against Israel, as well as LAW [light antitank weapon]missiles, RPG launchers, bombs, hand grenades, and dozens of kilograms of explosives.

Army of Southern Lebanon Cooperating With UNIFIL

TA241537 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1423 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The UNIFIL command in southern Lebanon and the command of Antoine Lahd have established a liaison unit which is holding daily contacts on everything pertaining to cooperation between these two forces. A red telephone line has been installed between General Lahd and General Callaghan, UNIFIL commander in southern Lebanon, to facilitate coordination and the solution of problems.

There have been a number of incidents lately between the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon and the civilian militia on the one hand, and the UNIFIL soldiers on the other hand against a background of struggle to control areas. This was reported by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz.

Five Killed, Five Injured in Helicopter Crash

TA250600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0552 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Here is an announcement by the IDF spokesman which has just reached our desk: Five IDF soldiers were killed and another five injured yesterday in the Bet She'an Valley when an Israeli Air Force helicopter crashed while on a training flight. Their families have been notified. The IDF spokesman says that the helicopter, a Bell-212, crashed in the Mehola area in the Bet She'an Valley in the afternoon. The helicopter had been in an exercise involving coordination between helicopters and ground forces.

As said, five soldiers were killed and another five were injured. The latter were evacuated to a hospital. Their families have been notified. The Israeli Air Force has appointed a commission of inquiry which has begun looking into the circumstances of the incident. Initial findings show that one of the helicopter's engines malfunctioned.

Lebanese Request Intervention in Al-Kharrub

TA250653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Christian leaders in the Al-Kharrub region of southern Lebanon have cabled Israel's president, prime minister, and chief of staff, calling on Israel to put an end to the fighting in the area immediately. The Christians claim Israel is not doing anything to stop the clashes although she has a commitment to them. Artillery battles between Christians and Druze went on yesterday from the afternoon until after nightfall.

Villagers Believed Collaborating With 'Terrorists'

TA241444 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Curfew continues in the Shi'ite village Majdal Balhis in the eastern sector of Lebanon, where security forces are conducting a thorough investigation following the ambush in which a security serviceman and an IDF soldier were killed. Dozens of villagers have been questioned. The commander of the army of southern Lebanon unit in the area told our reporter Hayim Hecht that he believes the villagers have collaborated with the terrorists and provided them with shelter, food, and information.

Embassy in UK Protests Official Iran Publication

TA250704 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Israel has protested to the British Government the fact that the Iranian Embassy in London has been distributing the slanderous anti-Semitic publication known as the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, which has been carried in installments in a publication by the embassy. Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, has promised the leaders of British Jewry that his government will make it plain to Iran that it will not tolerate the continued publication of the paper. The British authorities also promised that they would consider suing the Iranian Embassy for racial incitement.

British Ambassador Presents Credentials

TA241230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Britain's new ambassador to Israel, William Squire, presented his credentials to President Hayim Herzog today. Afterwards he spoke to reporter Gid'on Remez, who asked him about the prospect of a visit from British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

[Begin Squire recording] We all certainly hope that the foreign minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, will be coming to Israel very soon. We know that Sir Geoffrey is meeting Foreign Minister Shamir in New York, today indeed, and I am sure they will be discussing Anglo-Israeli relations. [end recording]

No Soviet Visas for Sports Correspondents

TA241613 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1420 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Seven Israeli correspondents, all of whom are members of the International Association of Sports Correspondents, have not received visas from the Soviet Union to cover the Davis Cup tennis competition between the Soviet Union and Israel which is to start on 29 September.

The correspondents had applied for visas together with the Israeli tennis contingent. The Soviet Embassy in Vienna announced today that there is "nothing new" as far as the correspondents are concerned.

The eight members of the Israeli tennis contingent have received Soviet visas.

Following a protest by the Israeli sports correspondents section of the Journalists Association in Tel Aviv, the president of the International Association of Sports Correspondents, (Frank Taylor) of Britain, and the secretary general of the association, (Massimo della Pergola) of Italy, applied to the journalist institutes in Moscow. This appeal also remains unanswered.

Representatives of the Israeli media are considering sending two correspondents to Vienna to follow closely the development of events and to try to obtain the visas.

Jewish Settlers Seeking To Surround Hebron

TA230836 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Sep 84 p 1

[Yehuda Litani report]

[Text] Last night authoritative sources said the Qiryat Arba' and Hebron settlers have no approval to take trailers to any place whatsoever in the town. The sources emphasized that these are the orders until there is a Cabinet decision on the matter. There are now eight trailers in Qiryat Arba', waiting in a camp before they are taken to various places in Hebron and the surrounding areas. During the defense minister's talk with representatives of the settlers from Qiryat Arba' and Hebron, the minister stressed that any decision on settlement inside Hebron requires a discussion and a decision made by the Inner Cabinet.

The goals of the Hebron settlers now are another plot of land, No 37, near the settlement site in Tal al-Rumaythah, which is next to the old Jewish cemetery, and a plot of land purchased by Qiryat Arba' settlers not long ago near the Church of Abraham's Inn in the western section of Hebron, where the settlers plan to complete surrounding the town with Jewish sites. At present none of these sites has approval by the political echelons for settlement purposes.

8 Trailers Readied for Further Hebron Settlement

TA221819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Eight trailers were brought to Qiryat Arba' and local residents intend to use them to establish a second settling point in Hebron. They want to settle in the vicinity of the old Jewish cemetery in the heart of the city. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the land in question belonged to Jews; this was already confirmed by justice ministry officials. Now the approval of the political echelon is being awaited. A few weeks ago a similar settling point was established in Khirbat al-Rumaythah in the heart of Hebron.

Youths From Al-Duhayshah Camp Stone Bus

TA241508 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Sep 84 p 11

[Roni Shaqed report]

[Text] Extreme anger was expressed yesterday in Qiryat Arba' after bus No 60 en route from Jerusalem was attacked in an unprecedented stoning near the Al-Duhayshah camp.

The passengers were interrogated, their weapons taken for examination, and the passengers were asked who had shot in the direction of the camp.

At approximately 1700 the bus was attacked by about a dozen youths from the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp. "It was pure luck that nobody was injured. At first we thought that we were being shot at, and we laid down on the floor of the bus. Only after the bus stopped did it become clear that stones had been thrown at us," Mrs Ilana Alfasi said yesterday.

The Qiryat Arba' men who were on the bus chased the stonethrowers and even fought with some local youths. The security forces who arrived on the scene quickly also began to chase the stonethrowers, and after stones continued to be thrown in their direction, the IDF soldiers were forced to fire some shots in the air.

Sources in the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp said that the attack on the bus was organized by a large group of youths in the camp. As in earlier cases, the youths were divided into two groups: One attacked the bus while it was traveling and the other attacked it after it stopped about 200 meters later.

The residents of the refugee camp claimed that the settlers fired shots at the camp's youths, and even beat up some of them. Four of the stonethrowers were caught by Qiryat Arba' people and taken to the police. One of the bus passengers, the wife of the Arab bus driver, was slightly injured.

Israeli Workers Replaced by Arabs in Al Birah

TA241150 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 24 Sep 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] Freddy Zakh, deputy head of the Civilian Administration in the West Bank, instructed the Israeli mayor of Al Birah to replace the Israeli workers in the municipality with local Al Birah workers. The only Israelis left on the staff are the mayor and his aide.

The *'AL HAMISHMAR* correspondent notes that this marks some progress toward returning the municipalities to Arab hands.

However, so far there is no agreement in Amman to the appointment of Arab mayors in place of the Israelis.

800 Prisoners Begin Hunger Strike in Nabulus

TA240732 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 84 p 2

[Text] Some 800 Arab prisoners at the new jail near Nabulus began an idefinite hunger strike yesterday morning to back up their demands for better conditions, a lawyer for some of the men said last night.

Among the complaints stated by the lawyer Ziyad Abu Ziyad, until a year ago editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic daily *AL-FAJR*, is lack of air and natural light in their cells. Prisoners say this is the result of the boarding up of windows with asbestos sheets. The cells are designed for seven prisoners each, but already contain 12, Abu Ziyad said. Furthermore the exercise yard, meant to accommodate about 35 men at one time, is used by about four times that number, making it useless.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Speaks on 'Political Direction'

LD241213 Algiers APS in English 1110 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Algiers, 24 Sep 84 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic, FLN Party secretary general, made a high level speech yesterday. This speech illustrates the interest the political direction pays to the various internal questions, to the party's activity as well as the aspects of national life at the economic and the social level. President Chadli Bendjedid, underlined in his speech, especially the role of the FLN Party in the mobilizaiton and the clarification. [sentence as received]

The president also highlighted the role of complementarity between the party and the state's structures. The [president] further stressed the necessity to make known the party inside and outside the country. [sentence as received]

Dealing with the development the region of Arab Maghreb is witnessing, President Chadli reaffirmed Algeria's unshakeable fate in common action in the sense of interest of the people and the necessity to give the unity of action its true content. [sentence as received]

President Chadli Bendjedid also reaffirmed Algeria's unchangeable position towards the Saharoui cause and Western Sahara people's right to self-determination in conformity with OAU and UN resolution. President Chadli further put stress on Algeria' support and solidarity with the South Africa and Namibia peoples' fight.

President Chadli also reaffirmed Algeria's firm position towards the Palestinian cause and its support for the Palestinian people in his just struggle, as well as its legitimate instances [as received].

After having [word indistinct] Algeria's actions the head of state paid tribute to the relations Algeria had with the African Continent country and the Third World in general. [sentence as received]

Briefs

Congo Accepts New Ambassador — Algiers — The Congolese Government has just agreed to the appointment of Mr Djamel Eddine Gharnati as Algerian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the People's Republic of the Congo. [Text] [*Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 16 Aug 84 p 3 PM*]

LIBYA

Further on Visit of Greek Prime Minister

Papandreou Makes Dinner Speech

LD241028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 24 Sep (JANA) — Prime Minister Papandreou of Greece delivered a speech at last night's dinner banquet which he started by saying: This visit is exceptionally important. As Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has stated, bonds with Greece go back many centuries.

Papandreou said: We have the greatest respect for the Libyan Arab people and for their leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, we appreciate the struggle of this people and their success in achieving their freedom, and we highly value the decision made in Libya through the Libyan Arab people in their own interest.

He added that after 1945 progressive forces began to wage long and serious national liberation struggles which led to the search for an alternative to colonialism, an alternative stronger and more practical than colonialism and founded on the new economic and technical power.

He stressed that today's new crises in Latin American, represented in the exports to the north, are closely tied with the interest rates and deficit in the United States. This represents only part of the problem, however. What is worse is that new power centers, such as multinational companies, are causing gaps between the rich and poor.

Regarding the conflict between East and West, Papandreou stressed that with the Greek Government and people, there is no retreat from the struggle for freedom and independence. The Greek people's right of sovereignty means that the country does not depend on foreign power centers or any agitating force inside the country.

He added that Greece is trying to extend its contribution to achieve peace and social and economic progress. He stressed that these qualities of struggle for freedom, national sovereignty, and social and economic progress constitute a common factor between Greece and the Jamahiriyah. He said: I was very happy to listen to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, to his ideas and hopes. The contacts which existed between Athens and the ancient Greek cities exist in Libya as a model for social structure.

Papandreou added: With regard to peace, we have stated within NATO and the Common Market that the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles will not push the Soviet Union to the negotiating table, rather the opposite will happen, which will lead to the introduction of SS-20's.

The Greek prime minister said that politicians and senior military leaders are dealing with many complex problems; however, they are not giving enough attention to the major problems represented in the survival of living humanity.

He pointed out that there is starvation in the South and death from starvation, and there is prosperity in the North, which takes a turning point remote from our biological origins.

Andreas Papandreou stressed that Greece has made an effort in the Balkan peninsula to create a Balkan nuclear-free zone. He said: We shall remove all nuclear weapons from Greek territory. At the same time our belief that a sensible decision by the Soviet Union not to set up missiles in Bulgaria or Romania will give the inhabitants of the Balkans an opportunity similar to that of the Scandinavian countries, and subsequently the creation of a nuclear-free zone could be extended to include both parts of Germany, which will help detente and survival.

Greek Prime Minister Papandreou at the end of his speech stressed that Greece does not move within outmoded frameworks, and this is one of the qualities of our Libyan friends. He said: I would like to salute Col al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan people on this wonderful occasion and discuss some of the common problems such as peace in the Mediterranean without foreign bases and without foreign fleets.

Draft Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD241941 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Sep (JANA) — A draft agreement on joint cooperation in various fields between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Greece was signed this evening. The draft agreement was signed by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou on behalf of the Greek side.

Papandreou Concludes Visit

LD241942 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1910 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Sep (JANA) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou left Tripoli this evening at the end of an official and friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The visit was aimed at strengthening friendship and cooperation between the friendly Libyan Arab and Greek peoples.

Andreas Papandreou was given a big send off at Tripoli International Airport by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and others. Also present at the send-off were the brother secretaries of the General People's Committee, and the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, several Armed Forces officers, and the head of foreign diplomatic missions accredited in the Jamahiriyah.

Statement on Papandreou Visit

LD242027 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Sep (JANA) — A press statement was released today both in Tripoli and Athens on the official and friendly visit of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to the Jamahiriyah from 23 to 24 September 1984. Here is the text:

At the Jamahiriyah's official invitation, the prime minister of the Republic of Greece, Mr Andreas Papandreou, paid an official and friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from 27 to 28 Dhu al-Hijjah 1393 after the death of the prophet, corresponding to 23 to 24 September 1984. During this visit, which reflects the excellent relations between the two countries, Mr Papandreou was received by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih (1 September) Revolution. Matters of utmost importance were discussed.

During the visit, official talks were held, attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and on the Greek side by Greek Prime Minister Mr Andreas Papandreou. Talks took place concerning the development of bilateral relations and the various fields of cooperation and international political issues, particularly those that concern the Mediterranean region, including turning it into a lake of peace, security, and cooperation free of all foreign military bases and fleets and all the pressures at present being exerted in this area. The Palestinian and Cyprus issues were also discussed.

International tension that creates more dangerous complications and exposes world peace and security to danger was studied and discussed. The two sides expressed great anxiety over the growing danger of nuclear arms buildup. They also expressed deep concern over continuing political and economic practices which make the gap beween the North and the South widen and consequently cause more deterioration in the international economic situation.

The two sides also exchanged views on Arab-European cooperation and the importance of developing this cooperation in a manner that will contribute to the realization of the aspirations of the nations of this area within the framework of mutual respect.

The two sides lauded the historic relations linking the Arab nation and the Greek people. In this connection, the two sides hailed the sincere efforts made to develop and strengthen these ties for the sake of realizing noble aims and strengthening national independence. The two sides affirmed the importance of developing their bilateral relations, particularly in the political, economic, cultural, and technical fields.

At the end of the visit Mr Andreas Papandreou and his delegation expressed deep appreciation for the welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation.

Al-Turayki Interviewed on Mediterranean

PM241601 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 21 Sep 84 pp 20-21

[Interview with Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, by Nahidah Nakad in Malta — date not given]

[Text] In a comprehensive interview with Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Ali al-Turayki, we asked him to give his assessment of the [Mediterranean nonaligned states] conference and its positive aspects for Libya and the area as a whole.

He said: I believe it has been a good conference. It is the first conference of the nonaligned Mediterranean states and is being held in Malta, which only a few years ago was a British and NATO base and which used to threaten the security and peace of the nonaligned states and particularly the Arab states in North Africa. Malta, with support from all and particularly Libya, managed to get rid of those bases and has become a nonaligned state. This has been a major contribution to the peace and security of the Mediterranean. The conference has dealt with several Mediterranean issues such as the presence of foreign bases and fleets and the threats they pose to the Mediterranean states. It clearly discussed and condemned the U.S. aggression and violation of Libyan territorial waters and airspace and it reaffirmed the nonaligned states' support for Libya and its full right to defend itself. It condemned the alliance between the Zionist entity and the United States, declaring that this alliance constitutes a threat to peace in the Mediterranean. The conference also dealt with the Palestinian and Lebanese questions, reaffirming full support for Lebanon and for the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. It considered such agreements factors not conducive to peace and security in the Mediterranean. It also discussed other issues such as the deployment of missiles in the Mediterranean and its islands, and it discussed economic cooperation. I believe that these are positive results. The atmosphere was also positive.

AL-HAWADITH: By Mediterranean islands to you mean Sicily and (Kofiru)?

Al-Turayki: Yes Sicily. Despite our good relations and full cooperation with Italy and despite the assurances we have received from our Italian friends, and particularly from Mr Andreotti during his recent visit to Libya, we, the people of the Mediterranean, are really worried about the presence of nuclear missiles in this region.

AL-HAWADITH: What, in your opinion, are the effects of the Oujda agreement [between Libya and Morocco] on the region?

Al-Turayki: On the question of Oujda I have stressed that it falls within the context of our serious and continuous efforts to achieve unity of the Arab nation. I believe that the Oujda agreement is a step toward the unity of the Arab Maghreb and the whole Arab world. It is not a bloc agreement and it is not meant as a threat to any state. In fact, it is open and we have offered it to all North African states. We hope that other states will join the union.

AL-HAWADITH: Following French President Mitterrand's visit to Morocco, how do you envisage a setttlement in Chad? Has Morocco offered to mediate in this connection?

Al-Turayki: We are in direct contact with France and the French Government. We will be meeting with the French external relations minister. This is not a French-Libyan issue. It is an African issue which concerns the OAU and the Chadian factions. We and France can only help the people of Chad achieve unity and form a coalition government of national unity on the basis of the Lagos agreement. We can agree with France on full withdrawal of forces but the issue is not a French-Libyan issue. It is a Chadian issue.

AL-HAWADITH: What is the state of Algerian-Libyan relations? Have they been affected by the Oujda agreement?

Al-Turayki: Our relations are good and we see them as such. In his recent speech the leader of the revolution underscored the importance of Algeria and of cooperation and integration with it. We have concluded several agreements with Algeria including one which aims at complete unity between Algeria and Libya. Our aim is to develop these relations.

AL-HAWADITH: What is your answer to Egypt's accusations regarding the ship *Ghat* and its passage through the Red Sea?

Al-Turayki: We have not received any official Egyptian accusations. We have affirmed that we had nothing to do with the explosions which occurred in the Red Sea. There is no evidence. On the contrary, we condemn the act, which we believe was premeditated by the United States, which wants to increase its military presence in the region particularly since this sea has become a vital lifeline with its oil terminals. That is what the United States wants and that is why it has created this problem together with its allies. Whatever the United States does, it does in cooperation with its natural ally Israel.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that mere condemnation of the U.S.-Israeli military alliance is enough? Are there any signs of new Arab activity in this connection?

Al-Turayki: There is supposed to be a large-scale Arab move. It was on this basis that Libyan proposals were sent to all the Arab kings and heads of state. We have emphasized the seriousness of that alliance and of the situation in the region as well as the threat of Israeli aggression. I believe that there should be an Arab alliance with an Arab common denominator to deal with the matter of the U.S.-Israeli alliance. We now notice that the U.S.-Israeli alliance is even stronger than before. The attitude toward Lebanon and the U.S. veto of the UN Security Council's draft resolution provide the evidence.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you think that this will trigger some positive Arab reaction?

Al-Turayki: By God that must be the case because it is now clear that there is no difference between Israel and the United States. It is also clear from what King Husayn has said that even the traditional friends of the United States are now convinced of that. King Husayn's statement that the United States is not neutral on the Middle East question is quite true. We said it years ago.

AL-HAWADITH: What is your reaction to the Egyptian press reports about a Libyan offer to give Egypt $5 billion in return for the abrogation of the Camp David agreement and the handing over of the Libyan pilot who sought asylum in Egypt?

Al-Turayki: We have worked and will continue to work for the return of Egypt to the Arab fold. Egypt's return to the Arab ranks is important to us. Egypt is a big Arab country and it has a historic and pioneering role to play as part of the Arab nation. We believe that Egypt's natural place is with the Arab nation. The Baghdad resolutions were not Libyan resolutions on Egypt. They were Arab resolutions on what Al-Sadat did at the time. We will continue to seek and work for Egypt's return, but this is not a purchase or bargaining matter. That is out of the question and we are not interested in that kind of thing. We believe that Egypt's natural place, economic and military interests, security, and role are within the Arab homeland. We will continue to emphasize this point. Regarding what has been said about a $5 billion Libyan offer, perhaps the reference is to the $5 billion offer made to Egypt by the Baghdad [Arab summit] conference as aid. [Former Lebanese Prime Minister] Salim al-Huss informed Al-Sadat at the time that the Arab League had decided to extend aid to Egypt. I believe that it is only natural that we support and help Egypt get rid of the nightmare given it by Al-Sadat.

AL-HAWADITH: There was some tension during this [Mediterranean] conference because of a proposal calling for discussion of the Camp David agreement as an item on the agenda. It was clear that you were very active among the delegations. There was an attempt to arrive at a formula acceptable to all sides.

Al-Turayki: It is obvious that the Camp David issue is naturally the main obstacle standing in the way of Egypt's return.

AL-HAWADITH: In your view, how can the Mediterranean region be neutralized, bearing in mind that Israel is opposed to that?

Al-Turayki: The occupation of all Palestine, the prevention of the implementation of UN resolutions, the U.S.-Israeli alliance, and the aggressive U.S. presence are all major obstacles preventing the neutralization of the Mediterranean region at present, but we are very hopeful. In Greece there is a good trend to get rid of NATO. This is encouraging. It would be a great achievement if we could encourage other NATO states, such as France, Italy, and others, to join us.

AL-HAWADITH: The East-West crisis is intensifying. In your opinion, are there likely to be clashes in the Mediterranean in the near future because of that?

Al-Turayki: The U.S. Administration is actually encouraging confrontation, reviving the cold war, and going back to the policy of brinkmanship. We reject this method and we do not want the Mediterranean to be an arena for superpower confrontation. Our problem is not so much with the Soviet Union as it is with the United States. It is the United States which supports Israeli aggression and has fleets and bases in the region. The United States is the main cause of the tension in the region and we hope that the Mediterranean states will realize that and ask the United states to leave this sea and its peoples alone.

AL-HAWADITH: Is it true that the Italian foreign minister conveyed a message from the leader of the revolution to President Reagan urging dialogue and that the U.S. President totally rejected it?

Al-Turayki: Who said that?

AL-HAWADITH: It was published in the Italian papers. Andreotti was called the postman.

Al-Turayki: As a nonaligned state we always say that we accept and seek dialogue. We are not opposed to dialogue with anyone. There is no exception. We determine our own foreign policy and do not accept any interference in our affairs. We have no objection to having equal relations with the United States but the United States wants agents not friends. We do not want to be anyone's agents and accept no conditions.

AL-HAWADITH: Is President Reagan himself the obstacle standing in the way of U.S.-Libyan rapprochement?

Al-Turayki: The obstacle between us and the United States is that the latter believes that Libya is the cause of the failure of its solutions for the Middle East. As far as the Palestinian question is concerned, we cannot possibly accept any conditions and we will continue to support this just cause because it is our cause and the Arab nation's cause.

SDAR's Recognition by Chad's Habre Viewed

LD222327 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] The mutinous clique in Ndjamena has announced its recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR]. The recognition was made known in a statement by Gouara Lassou, the foreign minister of the mutinous clique; it was also reported by the Algerian *EL MOUDJAHID* and by the official Algerian news agency yesterday.

It is clear that the recognition of the SDAR by the mutinous clique is a gesture that Algeria has now changed its position to one supporting Hissein Habre, and by so doing, has abandoned its previous commitment to recognizing the National Unity Government headed by Goukouni Oueddi. This means that recognition was made according to Algeria's wish, and that the mutinous clique now considers Algeria's support as giving it a cover of legitimacy. This is denied it by the majority of the Chadian people and by the rest of the detachments of the Chadian revolution, who support the legitimacy agreed upon in Lagos which Habre's group rebelled against.

It is known that Habre's clique receives financial, military and political support from the two hireling regimes in Egypt and Sudan. The meaning of this step should not escape the minds of the masses of the Basic People's Conference in Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. There is no doubt that they will judge this step.

Togo Cables Support for French Withdrawal From Chad

LD242112 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received a cable from General Eyadema, the president of Togo, in which he expresses his satisfaction over the Libyan-French agreement which provides for the withdrawal of the French forces from Chad. Gen Eyadema praises the great wisdom of the brother leader and his political will which are devoted to preserving the peace, security and freedom of Africa. He also stresses to the leader Togo's support and solidarity in this endeavour.

Opponents of African Arab Union Criticized

LD211949 Tripoli JANA in English 1746 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 26, September 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The *JAMAHIRIYAH* newspaper published today by the Revolutionary Committee has condemned the hysteria of the violent and harsh reactions by the claimants of progressiveness and bearers of slogans of Arabism and unity and their hostility towards the declaration of the treaty of union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco.

The *JAMAHIRIYAH* said in a long article published today and headed "Radicalism of Deception" that the declaration of union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco and what it represents as a solid brick on the wall of total Arab unity has been received with violent, harsh and hysterical reaction by the claimants of progressiveness and democracy and bearers of slogans of Arabism and unity, in a manner giving an impression of complete enemity to any Arab unity, democracy and progress.

The *JAMAHIRIYAH* pointed out to the blind hatred shown by the claimants of progressiveness and unity following the declaration of the union. It went on to say the media of the claimants of progressiveness have launched their stupid campaign in every direction crying for progress in a manner implying ignorance of facts and changing it upside down, tried to undermine it and have branded it as a mere political and military axis that would absorb the area and change its geopolitics.

The paper added that these media began launching cheap propaganda and false publicity aimed at misleading the Arab masses so as to obstruct the realisation of total Arab union which removes borders and unlocks doors. This realisation is considered by the media of the claimants of progressiveness as antiprogressive and as a threat to Arabism. This is what those progressives say as one of their newspapers described unity as a scandalous action strengthening the hold of imperialism and reactionism in Africa and the Arab homeland. However, on the contrary the opposite is true.

The *JAMAHIRIYAH* went on to say: We do not practice deception when we say the treaty of union was a first step along the path of building the united state of the Arabs from the Atlantic to the Arab Gulf. We do not practice deception when we say the union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco is the modern basis of any honest unionist action based on scientific standards and taking into consideration social facts and reality, because only social feasibility is the suitable and peaceful way for establishing an Arab union and reaffirming this union.

However, those progressives who consider themselves the guardians of the area and have the right to make decisions of refusal and acceptance, those who have been suffering from hysteria and started acting through their media in a crazy manner have exposed themselves in front of the Arab masses. The mask has been unveiled about their antiradicalism and progress, selfishness, fanaticism and self-interest irrespective of the interests of the Arab homeland and nation. They have become a tool against any Arab unionist action and against unity.

The alleged believers in progressiveness and democracy have an obligation to struggle to aid efforts of Arab unity and to show a great deal of credibility towards the masses, otherwise, their progressiveness would become a form of misleading the masses and a form of old political [hearsay] which cannot stand on the way of the desires of the masses for achieving their national ambitions. [The] opposite of this historical unionist programme and brand it as a union of circumstances, axes and blocks, like the leaves of autumn which sooner fall down and like a brief encounter is a low act by the claimants of progressiveness and a media bluff mixed with political nonsense and an action showing weak analysis, clear shortsightedness and unrealism. [sentence as received] It also represents a very bad initiative at the Arab level by portraying enemity to Arabism and unity and showing a great deal of hallucination and unjustified fears, especially considering that they have been welcomed many times as progressive forces in any Arab union embodying more than one Arab state. But they refused and gave false justifications and let down the hopes of the Arab homeland, east and west, in pushing forward the wheel of unity. Moreover they stood against a union which was very close between two Arab states. Today they began a hectic political contentiousness and are behaving as though they were the guardians of the region or influential regional powers. The truth is the opposite despite their disregard.

The Jamahiriyah is a revolutionary force which has the right ideologically to be the guardian of unity and liberation. The leader of the revolution is the guardian of Arab unity and nationalism as late President al-Nasir had declared openly. The Jamahiriyah is an influential regional power which was able to stand bravely in face of the contentiousness of America and colonial countries in Africa and the Mediterranean. The Jamahiriyah is qualified socially to change the geopolitical map of the Arab homeland.

However, any other logic is a shameless fallacy which cannot be considered nor accepted. It has become clear now that the enemies of Arabism are heading under the slogans of Arabism and that the enemies of unity are being overwhelmed by unity. History confirms that eternal deeds have had opposition and those who live in the mud of the swamp of regionalism could not survive in the new ocean of unity.

Attacking the union in the media is a mere noise of frogs which can only succeed in increasing the hubbub and will sooner disappear among the chanting of the popular masses and enthusiasm for unity, power and complete liberation of the united Arab homeland.

MOROCCO

King Addresses Royal Mission to Libya

LD241717 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God help him, received this afternoon at the Royal Palace in Fes the members of the royal mission due to leave for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ]. The royal mission consists of Mr Ahmed Reda Guedira, adviser to His Majesty the King; Mr Mustapha Belarbi Alaoui, minister of justice; Mr Driss Basri, minister of the interior; and Chiekh Mekki Nassiri, head of the Council of Scholars of Rabat and Sale and member of the Regency Council.

During this meeting His Majesty King Hassan II, may God help him, appointed Mr Abdelwahed Radhi as secretary general of the Arab African Union [between Libya and Morocco]. On this occasion, His majesty the king charged the royal mission with introducing the secretary general to the Libyan President [as heard], Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution. His majesty said:

[Begin Hassan recording] Praise be to God; prayers and peace be upon our master the prophet of God, his family and companions. Mr Abdelwahed Radhi, we are glad to send you to the SPLAJ as secretary general of the union between the two states. As is known from the text of the agreement, the headquarters of the general secretariat will be in one capital and the secretary general will be from the other country; these will rotate. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and I have agreed that for the next 2 years the headquarters will be in Libya, in Tripoli, and that the secretary general will be a Moroccan.

We need to note that this agreement between the two states has a future that adapts to reality and to history, as we explained in our speech to our people on 20 August. But it is no boring repetition to say that this agreement is likely to become a model in the continent and particularly, in the Third World because it is neither a merger nor a fusion, neither a federation nor a confederation; it has no obscurity or ambiguity. It is a treaty bringing together two fraternal countries, uniting their ranks, guaranteeing consultations between them on general issues and problems that interest them internationally. At the same time, it is a union (?tied to reality in the legislative, executive, cultural and economic, and political points of view).

We have decided to send an official mission to our brother His Excellency Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi so as to look with him into the points and future stages of this union. The mission will consist of the persons here present. Some might query the presence of Cheikh Mekki Nassiri. Cheikh Mekki Nassiri is not in the mission as the head of the Scholars Council for the towns of Rabat and Sale; he is in the mission as a member of the Regency Council which is mentioned in the constitution. His presence as a member of the Regency Council indicates our determination to ensure that this union between the two states becomes a union characterized by continuity, a continuity likely to remain and last for decades and years, dozens of years and centuries, God willing.

The Regency Council is one of the constitutional instruments that replaces the king if the king is at that time under age. By sending Cheikh Mekki Nassir, I wanted to show, to suggest, that this agreement between the two states does not depend on one person, or the person of King Hassan II; it is characterized by continuity because people pass, men pass, while institutions and states remain and last, and there is no eternity but in God Almighty. [end recording]

Soviet Trade Delegation Due for 8-Day Visit

LD241324 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat, 23 [date as received] Sep 84 (MAP) — An important Soviet delegation will arrive on in Morocco Tuesday for an 8-day visit, during which it will participate in the work of the Moroccan-Soviet Trade Commission. The Soviet seven-member delegation will be led by a Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry deputy minister.

Polisario Leaders Join Moroccan Side

LD242318 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat, 24 Sep (MAP) — Moroccan sources stated that two leaders of the so-called Polisario — (Hamdi al-'Aliyyin) of the Al-Ruqaybat Sawahil Tribe and (Bati Ould al-'Ajinah) of the Al-Ruqaybat Ould al-Ruwwad Tribe joined the fatherland — Morocco — at the end of last month. The same sources explained that a growing number of mercenaries have been seeking refuge in Morocco recently despite the restrictions in force against leaving the detention camps.

The Moroccan sources added that the cause of desertion is the collapse of morale of the members of the so-called Polisario since the Moroccan forces assumed control of the situation in the area after building the security belt, in addition to the drop in the mercenaries' military capability as a result of Libyan withdrawal of military aid to them.

AL-BAYAN Cited on Algerian Policy

LD232152 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat, 23 Sep (MAP) — Under the headline "Algeria Must Open Its Eyes," Moroccan *AL-BAYAN* said that through JANA's comment on the strong and severe Algerian reactions to the Oujda Treaty, signed between Morocco and the Libyan Jamahiriyah last month, on one hand, and to the Libyan-French agreement concerning Chad on the other, Tripoli has cleared up everything concerning Algeria and frankly condemned without any reservation the Algerian control in the region and the guardianship which it intends to impose on the Moroccan (?Saharan Provinces).

AL-BAYAN explained in its editorial today that the observers have no right [words indistinct]. Just one look at the statement [words indistinct], it indicates the huge gap which separates [words indistinct] from Algeria. It also indicates that Tripoli is no longer ready to continue to support the Algerian views on the present issues because of the negative approach of these views in dealing with the issues. It added that [words indistinct] by the Libyans, which we appreciate very much.

AL-BAYAN added: Since 1975, Algeria has been linked to Tripoli with a mutual alliance, friendship, and fraternity for considerations of unity. Because of these, Libya has supported the Algerian views and has explicitly cooperated with Algeria to the extent of collusion in the aggressive war implemented against Morocco through the mercenaries. Now here is Libya opening its eyes to the truth and understanding today that the Algerian policy does not have anything to do with the principles it raises arrogantly when the Sahara issue is concerned, but that the whole matter is a selfish desire to deprive Morocco of its legitimate rights and to subdue the Arab Maghreb.

The newspaper emphasized that nobody is more qualified than Libya to tell Algeria what it should be told. *AL-BAYAN* stressed that this development will make the leaders of our neighbor think and open their eyes so that they will be able to assess the issues correctly, because going to the extreme in hostilities against Morocco and over the top in the aggression against our country have completely isolated Algeria. Here is Tunisia, its partner in the Fraternity and Concord Treaty, refusing to go along with it in the line of explicit and useless opposition to the Arab-African federation. Here is Mali, challenging its bigger sister, Algeria, by positively assessing the French-Libyan agreement on Chad and saluting the Moroccan-Libyan federation. Other African countries are also following the same path, and the Arab world is finding a better atmosphere, indicated by the signs of reconciliation between Al-Qadhdhafi and 'Arafat.

AL-BAYAN wondered about the reason for the Algerian arrogance, explaining that no one in Morocco wishes a defeat on our neighbors, and no one wants to subdue Algeria and drag it into a position which contradicts its status within the framework of the Arab Maghreb. It said that our fraternal feelings and convictions of unity have not changed as far as this fraternal country is concerned, but they are parallel to our firm commitment to our legitimate national rights.

At the end of its comment, *AL-BAYAN* called on Algeria to abandon its unilateral attitude obstructing the establishment of the Arab Maghreb and to abandon its dream of imposing the wishes of a clique of mercenaries on 22 million Moroccans. It stressed that neither Morocco nor Libya aspire to achieve a victory over Algeria but rather suggest a dialogue and consultations to clear the disputes to reach a correct and reasonable solution suitable to all sides.

SUDAN

'Text' of Numayri Islamic Conference Address

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[Text] Khartoum, 22 Sep (SUNA) — Here under is the official translation of the text of President Numayri's address before the Islamic international conference inaugurated here marking the first anniversary of applying Moslem shari'a (rules) in Sudan:

[Begin Koranic verses] In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful. "It is those who believe and confuse not their beliefs with wrong that are in security, for they are on guidance. That was the reasoning about [word indistinct] which we gave to Abraham against his people; we raise whom we will, [words indistinct] degree; for thy Lord is full of wisdom and gave him Isaac and Jacob; all we [word indistinct]; and before him we guided Noah, and among his progeny, David, Solomon, Job, Joseph, Moses and Aaron; thus do we reward those who do good. And Zakaria and John, and Jesus and Elias and Jonas and Lot and to all we gave favour above the nations.

And to their fathers, and progeny and brethren; we chose them, and we guided them to a straight way, this is the guidance of Allah he gives that guidance to whom he pleases of his worshippers.

If they were to join other gods with him, [words indistinct] the men to whom we gave the book and authority and prophethood; if these reject them, behold; we shall entrust their charge to a new people who reject them not."

In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful. Now have come to you from your Lord, proofs; if any will see, it will be to his own; I am not to watch over your doings. Thus do we explain the various symbols, that they may say you have taught us diligently, and that we may make the matter clear to those who know. Follow what you are taught by inspiration from your Lord; there is no god but he; and turn aside from those who join gods with God. If it had been Allah's wish, they would not have taken false gods and we have not made you to watch over their doings nor are you set over them. Revile not those who call upon besides Allah, lest they revile Allah without knowledge; in the end they will return to their Lord and he shall then tell them the truth of all that they did.

In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful; shall I seek for judge other than Allah? He is who had sent into you the book in detail and those to whom we have sent the book know it has been sent from your Lord in truth so never be of those who doubt.

The word of your Lord finds its fulfillment in truth and in justice nor can change his words for he is the one who helps and knows all. Were you to follow the common run of those on earth, they will lead you away from the way of Allah. They follow nothing but conjecture and do nothing but lie.

Praise be to Allah, the initiator of souls and the perfecter of creation in the most perfect shape, who exalted the human race over his other creations, and who sent his messengers with proof and guidance and the holy book. I witness that there is no god but God, the sole one with no partner. No vision can grasp him. But his grasp is over all vision, and he is above all comprehension yet is acquainted with all things. [end verses]

Prayer and peace be upon Sayyidina Muhammad the last of the prophets and messengers who came a believer of truth and a fulfiller of magnanimous morals and a believer in preceding prophets from Adam to Jesus Christ. Peace and prayer be upon all of them and our prophet.

Dear brothers and guests, members of the first Islamic conference, peace be upon you with the mercy and blessings of Allah. I welcome you in your home, the land of peace and love and history, where guests are offered hospitality, orphans shelter, and neighbours protection. Peace be upon you, the greeting of Islam and the slogan of love in it; a greeting with which Allah greeted his prophet in heaven and will greet by it the believers in paradise on the day of resurrection. I greet you in the land of the Sudan from which had emerged Lagaman the Wise and Bilal the Proclaimer of the prophet and to which the followers of the prophet had emigrated the first hegira according to the most updated theories of scholars and the reading of the geography of the hegira to Abyssinia.

The land of the Sudan which hosts you, dear brothers, is the same land which had accorded most generous hospitality to Christianity and which was the custodian of the teachings of Christ, peace be upon him, the first of which is the belief in a forthcoming prophet bearing the name — Ahmed. You may refer, if you wish, to Al-Maqrizi or 'Abdallah ibn Ahmad al-Uswiyani who tells you about the natural disposition of the people of the Sudan who embraced Christianity in 545 A.D., and who then in the same values of Christianity and the sound and genuine teachings of Christ believed in the Islamic faith and established the first mosque in Dongola to worship Allah, that certainly took place before the year 31 hegira 652 A.D. You may also wish to refer to the Bught treaty, which the Moslim Prince 'Abdullahi ibn 'Ali al-Sartt had signed with the king of the Nubians in Dongola in the year 31 hegira, in which was stipulated the rights of Muslims to the mosque which should be maintained and lit and immuned from assault.

This dear brothers, is the land of the Sudan which is hosting you as its distinguished guests, a land whose people believed in Allah as their god, [words indistinct] of the prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. When the prophet came with his message they believed in him and were not like those who, when he came to them, failed to realize the truth and refused to believe it.

That was the land of the Sudan, dear brothers, which was characterized by the emergence of Islamic kingdoms, like Al-Funj, Al-'Abdallat, Al-Musabat and the Kingdom of Darfur whose glorious influence had spread to the extreme east of the Sudan and to the south on the Rajaf Mountain where the sound of proclamation was high and the west from Jebal Merra.

The caravans of guidance and belief had marched through it carrying pilgrims and the cloth cover of the Ka'abah and the gifts of the people of Sinnar and Darfur and the land of the Sudan to the holy land and the grand Al-Azhar in Egypt. There caravans took upon themselves the sacred task of protecting pilgrims coming from West Africa to the holy land and provide them with security and provisions. The land of the Sudan, dear brothers, once believed in Christ, upheld the teachings of Christianity, and became the best custodian to them. You may read, if you wish, the dialogue that took place between the king of the Nubian and the last Amwite prince in Egypt 'Ubaydallah ibn Marwan, that dialogue which took place in the land of Nubia in 750 A.D. and which is recorded in history books as an evidence of the belief of the people of this land.

The land of the Sudan, dear brothers, which believed in the Koran and applied it without prohibiting other religions or banning other worships or forcing anyone to be converted to Islam: "Will you compel mankind against their will to believe".

Dear brothers, members of the first Islamic conference, you may feel inclined to know when we started to think of adopting the shari'a law. This is a question which I hope will be answered exhaustively by the participants themselves. But I would like to state briefly that you are in a country which was forced to deviate from applying the laws of Allah since it came to know them. It's revolution has not resorted to other laws incompatible to the laws of Allah, except as a prelude to the application fo shari'a law through wisdom and rational policy, which Allah has enabled us to successfully implement.

The speakers will tell you that religion was behind every war that took place, and every revolution that had succeeded in this country. The Funj and the 'Abdallat revolted against the Anag, and established one of the most glorious and great phases of history during which the shari'a law was applied. Ahmad al-Masqur revolted in Darfur against abhorrent traditions, and the result was the establishment of the Islamic Kingdom of Darfur.

The Mahdi revolted against the colonial rule, and the result was the Mahdist Revolution. The 25th May Revolution was launched in 1969. Hence, the new Islamic state started to emerge in response to history and as a fullfillment of the will of Allah. What history will tell, and what I want to stress to you here is that Islam has never been at any time a cause of division among the Sudanese people or their different sects.

The Mahdist Moslem state had extended and spread throughout all the borders of the Sudan, but it never compelled anyone to change his religion nor tried to prevent anyone from practicing his religious rituals. I would like to assure you that the May Revolution since it was launched on the 25th of May 1969 has worked relentlessly to unify the Sudanese people. It would not have succeeded to do so had it not invoked the principles of Islam and adhered to its [words indistinct] and committed itself to its justice. It has met with obstacles some of which were solved and the rest will find solution by the will of Allah in the near future.

Dear brothers, in August 1970 I addressed our lawyers and called upon them to reassess the laws of the country as a move intended to apply the laws of Islam in order to protect our people against foreign laws rejected by their history and alien to their traditions and their conscience. I continued since then and on every occasion calling upon the people and their leaders to abide by the laws of Islam and Islamic discipline and to apply them to themselves as well as to others. I explained to them on every occasion that our customs and traditions are part and parcel of our religion, and that they should not distort our heritage by misconduct, corrupt dealings and deceipt, usury, and unlawful acquisition of other peoples wealth.

You may not be aware of the fact that until the twenties, it was a shame for a young man in the southern Sudan to get drunk. If a girl committed adultery, she would be chased out of her tribe. When the colonialists came, they changed the names of the people telling them that Islam would wage war against them, and that native drinks like Maressa was an important and an essential diet for them. Many of our people in the west, south, middle, and north of the Sudan were deceived by this trick.

But the May Revolution began with careful and slow steps to return to original traditions and identity. The result was the adoption of the permanent Constitution of 1973 which clearly legislated and recognized customary law as another source. You may as well know that our customary practices in money and blood are the substance of Islamic law, although the colonialists have tried to distort it and give it other names. They called the zakat [word indistinct] and animal and crop tax. They considered atonement as but a customary practice of the people in the south, and few in the west of the Sudan.

The revolution continued its slow and laborious efforts to pave the minds of the people to go back to the roots which are inevitable, and we see no salvation without them. Thus came my

1976 directive for exemplary leadership calling upon the leading cadres in the government service to refrain from drinking alcohol and I followed that by the programme of the second term of the presidency in 1976 and the formation of a second committee to revise the laws in the light of Islamic laws in 1977.

I then called openly for the application of the shari'a in my book "Islamic Methodology — Why?" which was published in 1980 and was reprinted in 1981. And here I would like to assert that any proclaimed law, guiding principles, or a holy verse which we have cited as evidence and presented to the people were all incorporated in that book or contained in the programme of political action.

In the year 1983, we have put forward before the national congress of the SSU, the programme for the third term of the presidency. It approved it unanimously. This was a popular mandate to adopt Allah's book and apply his laws.

In the same year we have started the practical application of methodology of Islam by the enacting of the law of the judiciary in 1983 and this coincided with the completion of our second book, "Islamic Methodology — How?" which is supposed to be at your disposal but because of unavoidable circumstances it could not be printed. In that book we have explained the obstacles and difficulties in the way of application.

[Begin Koranic verses] A.L.M. do men think that they will be left alone on saying "we believe" and that they will not be tested? We did test those before them and Allah will know those who are true and those who are false.

"Be sure we shall test you with some of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or fruits, but give glad tidings to those who patiently preserve.

"Did you think that you would enter heaven without Allah testing those who fought hard and remained steadfast.

"How many of the prophets fought with him godly men and they never gave way nor weakened and Allah loves those who are firm and steadfast.

"You shall be tested in your possessions and yourselves and you shall hear, from those who received the book before you and from those who worship many gods, much that will hurt, but if you persevere patiently and guard against evil, that shall be a determining factor." [end verses]

Dear brothers, members of the conference, we have thus started our action by implementing a programme which we have announced to the people. We have proclaimed that Islamic legislation which surprised some people. This surprise was expected as whatever we speak to them about Islam, its application is a different thing. The transition from one stage to another happened when Muslims came to suffer from defeat for the first time. They have seen death with their own eyes and it spread among them that the prophet was killed.

You did indeed wish for death before you met it, but you have seen it with your own eyes while you look.

Muhammad is no more than a messenger. Many were the messengers that passed away before him. If he died or [was] slain, will you then turn back on your heels? If any did turn back on his heels not the least harm will he do to Allah and Allah shall reward the gratifiers.

The fools among the people will say what has turned them from the Qiblah to which they were used? Say: To Allah belong both east and west. He guides whom he will to a way that is straight.

Thus we made of you an intermediate nation to be witness over the nations and the messenger be witness over you, and we appointed the Qiblah to which you were used only to test those who followed the messenger from those who would turn on their heels. Indeed it was (?momentous) except to those guided by Allah, and never would Allah make your faith of no effect, Allah is to all people full of kindness and most merciful.

A comprehensive legislative revolution was launched. In the organizational sphere, within this revolution, the judical law was enacted on the basis of the committed judge, then the attorney general, police, prison, the Council of the Supreme Judiciary and the lawyer laws were enacted as well. All of these laws were intended to organize the means which will ensure justice for the people, spread security among them and professional justice for those in these orgams as much as the state can provide. Then came the enactment of the criminal law on the basis of Islam as crime became a common day happening and affected every member of society. The latest methods of crime influenced the youth due to the technological advancement in the means of communication. Conservative families started to indulge in crimes. Sectors of the society that crime was abhorent to them became deeply involved.

When we enacted the Islamic criminal law at the beginning of Dhu al-Hijjah 1403, the number of crimes in last year before this enactment of shari'a law i.e. 1982 was as follows: Crimes of murder and harm 120,362; crimes of financial nature 121,771; crimes of security 56,610; crimes of other criminal offenses 45,895; crime of traffic violation 80,303.

The rate of crime in the same year was as follows: Robbery every 6 hours; adultery every 10 hours; death and harm every one hour and two minutes; house burglary every one hour and six minutes.

As for the accumulated judicial cases they were over fifty thousand and over thirteen thousands appeal cases. The total number of prisoners all over the Sudan was thirteen thousands. At least one third of them were habitual criminals who were convicted more than once.

After the application of shari'a law we released all of these prisoners on [9 September] 1983, a matter which disturbed the security organs and worried the citizens, but we accepted the challenge. We offered tolerance and forgiveness because this is the essence of shari'a and the religion, for those who can understand and comprehend forgiveness and tolerance and know the saying of Allah — "Is there any reward for good other than good" — in spite of releasing this big number the rate of crime dwindled to about 40 percent and we shall, by the grace of Allah, try to eradicate crime from the pure soil of Sudan, the land of Quran, holymen and Koranic schools. It is my hope that this conference of yours will meet again at a later stage shortly to commemorate with us the eradication of crime and the end of the accumalation of judicial cases which is indicative of the loss of the right of citizens and the degradation of the prestige of the law.

The Islamic legislation which we formulated during 1983 amounted to around twenty legislations which dealt with more than forty items of civil law, and they covered the economic sector, organized the zakat and taxes, laid down the basis of export and import and customs. They also touched upon military questions and the functions of the regular forces, police and prisons. Their effects extended to the civil service and the legalization of the call to do what is good and refrain from what is bad. The ultimate outcome of this blessed legislation was the establishment of state of guidance and belief in our world of today which is turbulent and unbalanced in its thinking and lacking in its values.

Dear guests, dear members of the first Islamic conference, you come to our country to see for yourselves what is happening and to be sure of the correctness of what we are doing. You may, by so doing, take upon yourselves the responsibility of honestly conveying the truth and correcting any wrong image some people may have formed in your country or in any country you may have the opportunity to visit. We want you to convey the truth to others, and we want nothing but the truth. Truth is luxury in our world of today, it is lost by desires and (?glutting). Allah said: "For every act of hearing or of seeing or of feeling in the heart will be enquired into". (Al-Isra':36)

You came to our country, and we ask you to convey to others that we are establishing the state of Islam in committment to what Allah said: "Of any desire a religion other than Islam never will it be accepted of him and in the hereafter he will be in the ranks of those who have lost". (Al-'Imran:85).

Inform others that we are establishing the state of kindness and justice and clemency, to avoid sin, evil and injustice in obedience to Allah who said: "Allah commands justice, the doing of good and liberality to kith and kin, and he forbids all shameful deeds and injustice and rebellion; he instructs you that you may receive admonition". (Al-Nahl:90).

Please convey to others that we are waging war against corruption and corrupt people, and we are seeking forgiveness in the other world according to the order of Allah: "But seek with the wealth which Allah has bestowed on you the home of the hereafter, nor forget your position in this world; but do you good as Allah has been good to you and seek not mischief in the land for Allah loves not those who do mischief". (Al-Qasas:77).

Please convey to the rest of the world that we have passed judgement on people, following what Allah said in Surat al-Nur: "Let their torture be witnessed by a group of believers".

Convey on our behalf to the whole world that we are building the useful and the kind citizen. We concentrate on the individual because he is the base of the community which is the cornerstone of the public relations act of 1984. The call for what is good and refrainment act of 1983. It constitutes the basis for all our legislation that was enacted following the declaration of the laws. As a result of all this we want a citizen, as says the prophet of Allah, peace be upon him, good if he judged, good if he was judged upon, good if he sold and good if he bought. We want a citizen who understands the hadith of the prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him: He who cheats us, is not one of us.

We want a citizen who understands the hadith, who is unkind shall not receive kindness. We want a citizen who realizes what the great message had said: The best of you is he who is best to his family.

And the prophet saying: The best of you is he who is best to his neighbour.

And his saying: Religion is relations.

Lastly we want a citizen who knows that the hand of Allah is with the group and he who differs from the group shall end in hell, as is said by the great prophet.

Convey on our behalf to the whole world that we are building a believing community in obedience to what Allah says the believers are but a single brotherhood: "So make peace and reconciliation between your two brothers and fear Allah that you may receive mercy". (Al-Hujurat:10).

Convey on our behalf that we are building a community that realizes our prophet's sayings: A believer has seven rights towards another believer as stipulated by Allah; glory in his eyes, love in his heart, sincerity in his wealth, not to speak bad about him in his absence, to visit him during sickness, attend to his funeral and not to say anything but good about him after his death.

We pray to Allah to accept our work, bless it with success and we pray him to invoke the whole world with guidance and maturity.

Dear brothers, many of you shall face questions on human rights and the rights of non-Muslims in a state that applies shari'a laws and abides by the Quran.

Please know, that the Islamic state is in fact the state of human rights even before the rest of world realized those rights or acknowledged their noble incoming. Allah said: Mankind reverance your guardian lord who created you from a single person, created of like nature his mate, and from them twain scattered countless men and women, reverence Allah from whom you demand your mutual rights, and the wombs; for Allah ever watches over you.

He also says: "Mankind, we created you from a single pair of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other. Verily the most honoured of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you, and Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted". (Al-Hujurat:13).

You may notice, dear brothers, that the Quran here addressed all people and did not address the Muslims alone. History books state that our prophet passed by a funeral of a Jew and stopped. When asked he said: "Is it not a soul created by Allah?".

Criminal laws were made to protect the community from individual injustice. It is punishment of the culprit and a deterrant to others as Allah said: "You have a life in the law of equality".

People shall ask you about the rights of non-Muslims in a Muslim state. Tell them that you have not seen a church demolished nor a monastry closed nor prayers prohibited nor any freedom suppressed.

Convey to others that we do not differentiate between a Moslem and a non-Moslem in our dealing with people, nor do we deprive any non-Moslem of a public office because of his religion. We never differentiate between citizens because of religion or colour or race. Our beloved prophet says: "You are all sons of Adam, and Adam was created from dust".

Allah the Almighty says: "Allah forbids you not with regard to those who fight you not for faith nor drive you out of your homes, from dealing kindly and justly with them; for Allah loves those who are just".

Please convey to the rest of the world that we do not differentiate between a thief who is a Moslem and a non-Moslem thief. We do not protect a Moslem who kills a non-Moslem. Our prophet taught us that in his saying: "He who murders a man from the people of the book shall not find the wind of paradise, and the wind of pradise can be found seventy years away".

And our prophet also says: "He who does injustice to a person of (?engagement) or over-fatigues him with work, or denies him his right, or takes something from him without his willingness shall find me his opponent on the day of judgement".

We want you to inform the rest of the world that we give protection to whoever seeks refuge with us even if he is a disbeliever, because Allah said: "If one amongst the pagans asks you your assylum, grant it to him so that he may hear the word of Allah and then export him to where he can be secure, that is because they are men without knowledge". (Al-Tawbah)

Dear brothers and guests, when you leave our country. You will go to a world where truth is lacking. You will be asked about the courts of prompt justice which we established in accordance with the state of emergency laws. You will tell them that you did not see any punishment in the streets, nor did you see any atrocities against the people. You have seen specialized and learned judges working day and night to provide security for the people, and to settle old accumulating cases from the days of the colonialists.

Please convey to them that you did not find tanks roaring in the streets, nor people being detained for questioning in the streets, but that you found a state of emergency proclaimed to provide security for the people and to protect the newly born Islamic state and its great principles. So did the great prophet Muhammad, when he entered Mecca victoriously and said: "He who enters the Ka'bah is safe, and who enters the house of Abu Sufyan is safe, and he who stays home and closes his door is safe".

This was the first declaration of the state of emergency in Islam. The Caliph Abu Bakr did the same when he fought those who refused to pay the zakat although there was no unanimous decision that they became disbelievers, and even some of them who were killed [words indistinct] by people like 'Umar ibn al-Khattab and Abu Qatada.

The wars against renegades were a state of emergency for the protection from within the Muslim state. You may remember that some of those who opposed those wars argued that their enemy was preparing to attack them, so how could they go to war against each other? History repeats itself. Here we have declared the state of emergency not to fight an attacking enemy, nor to repulse a foreign military invasion, but to protect the society of believers against those who conspire against its values and morals and security.

You will be told, dear brothers, or maybe some of you heard the news that while we were on the process of establishing the state of Islam, the state of Shura and justice, we did not differentiate between a minister and a doorman, nor between the rich and the poor. All people are equal before the law. What the prophet has said in this connection shall remain echoing in this pure country forever.

By Allah, if Fatima the daughter of Muhammad stole, I would amputate her hand.

Dear brothers, you will be asked about the system of government which we are establishing. It is the state of Shura. Everything is done through Shura as the Quran has ordered. I am going to tell an important incident in this connection. Around ten months ago the governor of Darfur region left the country and has not returned because his business companies abroad suffered serious losses due to embezzlement. I have waited for his return or replacement by the authorities concerned in the region, but that did not happen. Last July, I visited Darfur region and I asked the authorities there to exercise their legal right to replace the governor and I absolutely refused to take the initiative although I have the authority to do so. I did this because various bodies in the government exercise their rights in the spirit of Shura and in order to expand the sphere of decision making.

I cite another incident, dear brothers, in connection with Shura in government. The southern citizens have incessantly insisted on dividing the southern region to three regions. They validly sustained their argument strengthened with advice from their leaders in the government. The objectives from all this was to facilitate the administration of the region in an easy manner and to avoid the exclusive domination of certain tribes on government, and to follow the example of the north which was divided into six separate regions that rule themselves administratively and shoulder most of the responsibilities of government. We responded positively to that request from our side because it was a legitimate request and because it was in the interest of the citizens of the south administratively, and in terms of better service as well. But we decided that all this arrangement should be transitional until the citizens are absolutely sure of its usefulness. Now the three southern regions have grown up and have shown that they are equal to the regions of the north. The citizens on the remote parts of the South have felt the effective presence of that administrative governing authority. Yet and inspite of all that I hereby and in front of all of you declare that the citizens of the South are free to return back to the one region that existed after the expiry of the transitional period if this proved to be the wish of the majority expressed through constitutional bodies.

Dear brothers, members of the first Islamic conference, for sure you will be asked about the problem of the south. You will be hearing lots of lies, unjustified claims and fairy tales about the south. The south which was meant by the colonialism to be a time bomb, planted to explode in good time, the consequence of which was well calculated and its result accurately anticipated. I beg our indulgence to tell you something about the South before one hundred years and more — how it was the heart of the united Sudan during the epic of the Mahdist Revolution. I would like to quote this paragraph from page 163 from my book: "Islamic Methodology — Why?" quote: The South: The agony of a retreating history. How painful it is when history retreats. The great Madhai fighting the invaders and chasing the coloniser enflaming the national great revolution of Sudan. Bahr al-Ghazal to support, Bahr al-Ghazal to swear allegiance. The Dinka and Nuer expel the commander of the garrison and receive the commander of Al-Mahdi, Koramalla Shayka Muhammad Krikisawi to hoist the Mahdist flag, symbol of Sudanese unity in the plains of Bahr al-Ghaza.

Al-Mahdi's ships approaching Equatoria Province and its tribes in front of them. They tightly encircled the garrison, which fell and surrendered and, Dr Amin, the governor of the province retreats, whereby "Umar Salih the envoy of Al-Mahdi hoists the national flag to embrace Equatoria Province. End of quote.

Colonialism came, dear brothers, and the Sudan is united, one country, one people — Islam its religion, unity its slogan, consent its spirit, has no enemy but colonialism and has no aim except to eliminate it. Hence the colonialist started to plan its big crime against humanity.

Southern citizens were forced to change their names to Christian ones — Yusuf became Joseph, Jum'ah became Jama, Shoul, Deng, Majok, Meking and Owan. They added or changed their names to William, John and Peter. They distorted the basic and original feature of the south. Not satisfied with separating the south from the north they remoulded its natural good identity.

In 1922 and its aftermath, the colonial power started planning and executing the policy of the south which continued until 1964. During that period the South was closed in the face of the sons of the north and the citizen of the country and his comrades was not allowed to enter except the periphery and even the periphery could not enter without an entry permit.

The process of the Christinisation of the south and the instigation of strife inside it continued vigourously only to explode in 1955 in the well known tragic events that year. Hence the brother assassinated the brother and both continued to fight each other — the same brothers who never rose arms against each other ever since the Sudan was unified and history has never recorded any hostility or enmity between them.

They tried to make the south understand that it was Christian and they partially succeeded to win a limited minority, the unwavering majority continued to resist, puzzled of what was going on, rejecting it at the same time and feeling sad at the imposition on it of a religious and political regency. Because religion is to Allah and there is no compulsion in religion the people of the south know very well that among them are more than a million Muslim and less than a million Christian, the rest still remain in their original status. They are like us astonished at the big lie. The lie of the Christian south differing religiously from the north. The people of the south conceive very well that the unity of the north and the south is not conditioned by the implementation of the British law or any colonialist law, nor by any commitment to the east or the west. It is a unity of blood, history and a common heritage which is being consolidated every day through free movement and ever. Messaria, the Dinka and the Resugat in Abyaee where tribes volantarily agree on one chief, Akol Deng Majok, the son of one of the greatest Dinka chiefs. These tribes agree on him and present him inspite of racial and religious differences because the objective is the same, the nation is the same and the destiny is the same.

Dear brothers, members of the conference. On the 9th of June, 1969 the May Revolution has issued in 2nd week of its inception an important statement on the problem of the south. The statement later provided the framework for the conclusion of the reputed Addis Ababa peace accord of 1872. On that occasion the commentary of the media was as follows: An agreement which is peace and unity. At its conclusion ends the smaller struggle — the struggle to arrive at it and after comes the bigger struggle to preserve it.

This stage amounts to what we are living today. Islam has strengthened our conviction in the freedom of religion. It sustained our patience for misfortunes and our ability to struggle for the sake of Allah and the nation.

We see no relationship between the problems of the south and the shari'a laws. There is neither a historical nor a military relationship. The Sudan does not impose religion on its people and will not force anyone to abandon his religion. The south is not an inheritance of imperialism and its agents even if it disguises itself in the robe of Christianity. We see no conflict between us and Christianity and no war between us and the church. Freedom of religion and beliefs is embodied in our Constitution, but we refuse the interference of others in our affairs and we appeal to the world around us to urge others to address themselves to the problems of their peoples. Our brothers who fight from outside are not fighting in the name of Christianity against Islam. They fight because they were defeated in the dialogue. So they opted to kill their fathers and mothers to irradicate their natural wealth with the objective of reaching offices which they were deprived of by their own people. So they retreated.

"If any did turn back on his heels, not the least harm will he do to Allah." (Al-'Imran:144)

Dear brothers, members of the conference, we are determined to proceed steadily in the building of the state of belief and knowledge for the welfare of our own people and for the whole of humanity. Jihad is our slogan. Death for the sake of God is our most cherished hope. Respect of man is our commitment. Patience for misfortunes is our wealth. Respect of neighbour and the [word indistinct] of the guest is one of the pillars of our religion. Mercy to the poor is one of our great objectives. Please do convey to the whole world the reality of what you have experienced and seen and that is enough.

Dear brothers, before concluding my speech, I would like to brief you about [words indistinct] economic setup. Last March we announced [word indistinct] and taxes, which made zakat the pillar of the Sudanese economy, because it is the pillar of religion and because it gives the poor the right to take from the rich.

While implementing the zakat we did not forget our non-Muslim brothers. We have demanded from them taxes equal to the zakat, and applied it only to the surplus of capital interests, and not to exceed 10 percent and only if necessary. The result, dear brothers, has encouraged foreign capital for investment as well as Sudanese capital in a way that never happened before in recent history. All industrial, agricultural and animal investment are free from all taxes except the zakat, and the zakat does not exceed 2.5 percent i.e.,25 pounds from every one thousand pounds. If the mentioned capital gains millions, we shall take nothing from [words indistinct], and their gains are theirs. [Words indistinct] of the world would you find more encouragement? Added to this, the security we provide, so that no one needs to fear for his life or money or family. Moreover, the prevalance of Islamic ethnics and values and a hospitable and friendly people and prompt justice.

Dear brothers, dear delegates, Islam has spread through this country without bloodshed. It blew like a gentle breeze, spread like rain and flourished like a plant and flooded like the Nile.

The Quranic schools were, and still are the greatest schools. Thousands of Quranic centres, spread through the Sudan conveying knowledge, providing food and spreading enlightment. Nor the Islamic revolution started without war or fighting.

The greeting I started with, (Di Alayum) is the same you will be greeted with everywhere in the Sudan and from everyone in its plains. The 25th of May Revolution is but a historical phase among the phases of the great Islamic revolution for which we have worked for very long until we started the practical implementation of it with the help of Allah on the beginning of Dhu al-Hijjah last year, the first anniversary of which we are celebrating today. Dear brothers, we have taken a faith that has been taken by Adam, Noah, Ibrahim, Isma'il, Jacob, Elias, Moses, Yahya, Jesus and Muhammad.

"We made no difference between any of his messengers". Praise be to Allah who guided us to him. Never could we have found guidance had Allah not guided us. We wanted you to know the truth of the matter and convey it to others. Success comes from Allah as comes absolute victory.

"To thee we sent scripture in truth, confirming the scripture that came before it in safety; so judge between them by what Allah hath revealed, and follow not their vain desires, diverging from the truth that hath came to thee. To reach among you have we prescribed law and an open way. If Allah had so willed, he would have made you a single people, but to test you in what he hath given you; so strive as in a race in all virtues. The goal of you all is to Allah. It is he that will show you the truth of the matters in which ye dispute. Judge thou between them by what Allah hath revealed and follow not their vain desires, but beware of them lest they beguile thee from any of that which Allah hath sent down to thee. And if they turn away be assured that for some of their crimes it is Allah's purpose to punish them. And truly most people are rebellious". (Al-Ma'ida:48-49). Peace be upon you, and the blessing of God.

Numayri Receives Pakistani President's Message

JN242021 Khartoum SUNA in English 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, Sep 24, (SUNA) — The president of the Republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today received a written message from Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The message was relayed by Mr Ziaul Haq's assistant for educational and religious affairs who is currently here to take part in the Islamic conference which is convening here marking the anniversary of applying Moslem rules in Sudan. The assistant who met President Numayri said the message dealt with bilateral relations.

Chadian Minister on Libyan-French Agreement

JN241638 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Sep (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received Brahim Mohamat Itno, Chadian minister of interior and administrative reform and head of the Chadian delegation to the first international conference on the implementation of Islamic law in Sudan.

In a statement to the press, the Chadian minister praised Sudan's experiment on the implementation of the Islamic law. He described the experiment as an example which must be followed by Islamic Africa after suffering a great deal of [word indistinct]. He added that President Numayri asked him to convey his greetings to Chadian President Hissein Habre and to the Chadian people and government in reply to President Habre's message which he conveyed to President Numayri during the meeting.

Answering a question, the Chadian minister announced his country's doubts about the credibility of the French-Libyan agreement on the simultaneous withdrawal from the Chadian territory considering the vicissitudinous Libyan policy.

Asked about his government's stand if the agreement is implemented, he said: The Chadian Government and people hope that the French and Libyan forces will withdraw from Chad. He announced that the Chadian Government has continued contacts with the opposition abroad, especially the parties which adopt the hostile Libyan stands.

Concluding his statement, the Chadian minister expressed his appreciation for Sudan's invitation to participate in the first international conference on the implementation of the Islamic law in Sudan.

Assembly Recommends Darfur Governor's Dismissal

JN211526 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Al-Fashir, Sudan, 21 Sep (SUNA)—The Darfur Region's People's Assembly has unanimously decided to withhold confidence in the region's governor and to recommend his dismissal to the competent authorities. During a recent meeting, the Assembly discussed the issue of Governor Ahmad Ibrahim Durayj's absence [as received] in all its aspects and heard reports pertaining to the negative nature of his absence. The Assembly also discussed other issues including distribution of maize and other foodstuffs and the celebrations of the first anniversary of applying the Islamic laws.

Committee to Discuss 'Absence'

JN211729 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Sep (SUNA) — SSU Secretary General Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir 'Umar has decided to form a nonpartisan committee to conduct the joint session of the SSU and People's Assembly in the Darfur Region scheduled to be held on Saturday, 6 October 1984, in Al-Fashir, Darfur Region, to look into the absence of the region's governor, Ahmad Ibrahim Durayj. This was announced by the SSU secretary general after a meeting with a Darfur delegation.

Briefs

Outgoing Ambassadors — Khartoum, 22 Sep (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman this morning received the PRC and the Spanish ambassadors in Khartoum on the occasion of their end of term of office in Sudan. [Excerpt] [*Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 22 Sep 84 JN*]

TUNISIA

President Receives Mauritania's Ould Minnih

LD241323 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The head of state received Mr Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and special envoy of the Mauritanian president to President Habib Bourguiba, in the presence of Mohamed Mzali, Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary of state for foreign affairs; and Mohamed Lamine Ould Yahia, Mauritanian ambassador to Tunisia.

Mr Ahmed Ould Minnih said that he handed his excellency the president a letter from his brother President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala concerning the continuous consultations between the two heads of state. He also expressed his satisfaction with the atmosphere in which the talks with President Habib Bourguiba passed. He added that the supreme combatant expressed feelings of brotherhood and friendship towards President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala and the Mauritanian people.

President Bourguiba Receives New Saudi Envoy

LD212227 Riyadh SPA in English 1905 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Tunis, Sept 21, SPA — Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba today received credentials of the new Saudi Ambassador to Tunisia 'Abbas Fa'iq Ghazzawi. During the credential ceremony the Tunisian leader highlighted the strong relations existing between the two countries.

The new diplomat conveyed the good wishes of King Fahd and Crown Prince 'Abdallah to the Tunisian leader. Then Ghazzawi introduced the staff of the Saudi Embassy to President Bourguiba. The ceremony was attended by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi.

On the other hand, the Saudi ambassador met here last night with Hakam Bal'awi, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Tunisia. The meeting focused on recent developments on the Palestinian arena and conditions of the Palestinian people in occupied territory.

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers: Statement Reports Attacks on Moroccans

LD242301 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] A statement issued by the Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture today, confirmed that on 16 September the fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army bombed a Moroccan Royal Army position in Amgala. On the following day they bombed a number of positions occupied by the Royal Armed Forces in (Rous Mziriga), Echdeiria, and Smul Niran, and imposed heavy material and human losses on them. The statement added that on 19 September the Saharan fighting units bombed Moroccan military positions in Ouedei El Ouerg, near the city of Haouza.

These operations led to important material and human losses among the Moroccan Royal Forces. They were: 19 Moroccan soldiers killed and 28 injured, in additioin to the destruction of a military truck and considerable quantities of equipment belonging to the Royal Army.

TANZANIA

Foreign, Energy Ministers Pay Visit to Iran

For Tehran coverage of the visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran by Minister for Foreign Affairs Benjamin Mkapa and Minister for Water, Energy, and Minerals Al-Noor Kassum, and an accompanying political and economic delegation,including coverage of Mkapa's talks with his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and highlights of a joint communique issued at the end of the visit, see the Iran section of the 17 September South Asia *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

UGANDA

South Korean Ambassador Expelled; Trade Suspended

EA241921 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Uganda has expelled the South Korean ambassador and suspended its trade ties with South Korea. Reports from Kampala say the expulsion of Ambassador Suk Hong-kang was in retaliation for unfavorable press reports about Uganda's human rights in South Korea.

A statement issued by Uganda's Foreign Ministry said the ambassador was given 14 days to leave the country. It said the action was taken because of hostile propaganda transmitted by South Korean state radio and other media about the human rights situation in Uganda.

The expulsion order was given last Saturday by Uganda's minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Picho Owiny.

CAMEROON

Minister Criticizes Press for 'Sensational' Stories

AB241842 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of territorial administration, Marcel Mengueme, has told members of the private press in the country that their newspapers ought to be pillars of support of the New Deal and not the expression of interest groups. Mr Mengueme, who was speaking today at a working session with some 20 representatives of the national private press, said there was the need for closer association between the private press, the government, and party authorities.

In this light, the minister praised the private press for its participation in the roundtable discussions organized to mark the 18th anniversary of the CNU [Cameroon National Union] Party. He, however, criticized the private press for giving preference to sensational news stories which most often were not reliable or did not have authentic sources.

He reminded the representatives that such an attitude, besides being ruinous to the credibility of their newspapers, also posed a threat to public security and political stability. Mr Mengueme finally called on the private press to recruit fully-trained reporters and not half-trained ones that are more dangerous than beneficial to the nation as a whole and to their employers in particular.

CHAD

Minister Says 'No Foreign Observers Without Talks'

LD221337 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] As expected, the Franco-Libyan arrangement on Chad does not entirely coincide with Ndjamena's wishes, and criticism is beginning to be expressed. First, the foreign observers for whom provision is made in the Franco-Libyan agreement will not be allowed to stay in Chad so long as proper consultations have not taken place. In other words, Ndjamena does not accept this particular provision of the Franco-Libyan agreement, not for the time being anyway.

This is what Chadian Foreign Minister Mr Gouara Lassou revealed in an interview published this morning by the Algerian daily *EL MOUDJAHID*. Chad is not a stopping-off place where everyone comes when he wants and goes as he pleases, the minister said in particular. He also expressed the strongest reservations vis-a-vis the Franco-Libyan agreement. As for national reconciliation, Mr Gouara Lassou reaffirmed his government's position: Agreement to negotiations if the opposition acknowledges Hissein Habre as head of the Chadian state.

Minister Explains Rejection of Benin as Observer

AB242140 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] A few hours before the French-Libyan accord goes into effect, Adoum Moussa Seif, minister-delegate to the presidency of the Republic and interim minister of information, has explained to Radio Chad the attitude of the Chadian Government on the observers proposed by Paris and Tripoli.

[Begin recording] [Seif] As a matter of fact, it was only last Saturday that the French Government officially requested Chad's consent to appoint Senegal and Benin to act as observers, with Senegal proposed by France and Benin certainly by Libya. The Chadian Government made counterproposals to France. In fact, we told France that we want the accord to be effectively implemented in the field. There are no particular problems concerning the withdrawal on the French side; however, what we find most important in the deal is Chad's territorial integrity and sovereignty in accordance with the fundamental principles for which we have always fought.

This is why we feel that the problem of observers is a very important issue because we are sure that the Libyans will not withdraw as they are saying. Even if they withdraw, this will not be the first time, as they have entered Chad on several occasions and pulled out on several occasions. We believe that Libya is preparing something against Chad. This is why we made counterproposals to France. We do not object to Senegal as an observer, but there is no way we can admit into our country Beninese, who are nothing but Libya's satellites, whom we have fought and who are currently on the battlefield on the Libyan side.

We are speaking from experience. The Beninese Army is trained and equipped by Libya. Without exaggeration, we can say that it would be an insult to our people if we allow Beninese to come in as guarantors of their security since Chadians know that the Beninese, who have fought and continue to fight them, are their enemies. It is therefore important for us to ensure that the problem of guarantees is given due attention so that Chad's territorial integrity will be respected. For this reason, if all parties shared our views, the United Nations would be the most appropriate body, in view of its moral weight, to appoint observers to ensure the effective withdrawal of both French and Libyan troops from Chad.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, a French official has stated that with or without observers the withdrawal would still be achieved.

[Seif] As a matter of fact, a statement of this kind has been made by the French Government. For our part, we believe that this no longer needs saying. But the most important thing for us is that the guarnatee concerning our territorial integrity be respected. In any case, whether there are observers or not, we will see on the spot whether the Libyans have withdrawn or not. If they do not withdraw, we think those who should bear responsibility for their not withdrawing will do so. [end recording]

Paris-Tripoli Silent on Troop Withdrawal Plans

NC250900 Paris AFP in English 0843 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, Sept 25 (AFP) — Both Paris and Tripoli remained silent today over the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops from Chad, which had been set to start at midnight local time. However, French spokesmen were still saying on Monday that the withdrawal, agreed between Paris and Tripoli on September 16, would begin on time, in spite of the absence of observers.

France and Libya, whose forces have supported opposing factions in Chad, decided on representatives from Senegal and Benin to monitor the pullout. But there were strong objections from the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre to Benin, which it accused of being "a satellite of Libya." French Government Spokesman Roland Dumas indicated that the withdrawal, which is due to be completed by mid-November, could start without the observers. He added that "Chadian sensitivities" would be taken into account in the choice of monitoring countries.

Informed sources in Paris said that a working group of officials from various French ministries and the presidency had been set up to keep a close eye on developments. The sources said that journalists in Ndjamena could be allowed to go early tomorrow to Salel, a French advanced post on the line across the center of the country dividing the two sides. The French have 3,000 troops in Chad, and the Libyans an estimated 5,000, along with what the Ndjamena government alleges are 8,000 members of an "Islamic Legion" recruited from various African countries. Western diplomatic sources in Tripoli, contacted by telephone last night, said that the Libyan authorities had made no mention of the withdrawal for several days.

Meanwhile, in Ndjamena, President Hissein Habre's army commander, Idriss Deby, said Libya was giving active support to rebels in southern Chad. He showed a message allegedly intercepted from Tripoli on August 29 referring to deliveries of materiel. The message promised more help if the various southern groups united and put themselves under the National Liberation Army of Goukouni Oueddei, Mr Habre's predecessor, who was ousted from Ndjamena in 1982 and has been holding the northern half of Chad with Libyan support. In Ndjamena, the French military command said that a communique would be published in Paris later today on the official start of the withdrawal.

An informed source said that the first group of Senegalese observers was expected in the Chadian capital later today. They were arriving from Kano, northern Nigeria, where a joint Franco-Libyan commission has set up its headquarters with the job of sorting out any disputes between the two sides during the withdrawal process. Fifteen Senegalese observers were also to go into northern Chad to check the pullout of the Libyan forces.

Pullout To Begin Without Observers

AB250908 Paris AFP in French 0725 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, 25 Sep (AFP) — At 0100 today, France was still keeping tight lips over its military pullout from Chad which was expected to begin officially today, Tuesday, at 0000 hours.

On Sunday evening and Monday, the French Government spokesman, however, stressed that the withdrawal would begin on the scheduled date even in the absence of joint observer teams as specified by the agreement signed on 16 September in Tripoli. Roland Dumas, spokesman of the French Government, said on Sunday evening that the main thing was the withdrawal, pointing out that observers could come in later as their task is to check whether the pullout has effectively taken place.

AFP Reviews Recent Chadian Developments

AB241354 Paris AFP in English 1210 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Sept 24 (AFP) — French troops were today making their final preparations to begin leaving Chad, where they have been protecting the government of Hissein Habre against his Libyan-backed opponents. Libyan forces were called upon to do the same, under the agreement signed eight days ago between Paris and Tripoli. But there was no firm information as to Libyan actions in the north of the country, and members of Mr Habre's government continued to express scepticism that the Libyans would really go.

Even if the Libyans do depart, there are fears that they might return once the 3,000 French troops are gone, and that with or without the Libyans there will be a revival of the civil war which has ravaged Chad for around two decades. In addition, the official radio here last night raised a possible obstacle to the withdrawal timetable by formally rejecting the choice of Benin as one of the two African countries agreed by Libya and France to monitor the withdrawal on both sides. Benin was "a satellite of Libya," the radio said, alleging that many members of the Libyan "Islamic Legion," supposedly based in northern Chad, were Beninese. The other observers, from Senegal, are not opposed by Ndjamena.

However, in Paris, the French Government spokesman, Roland Dumas, said earlier yesterday that the withdrawal would start at midnight tonight even if the observers were not in place. Informed sources here said that France was now trying to find another African country also acceptable to Libya, but Paris did not share the view in Ndjamena that the observers should be chosen by the United Nations.

Various unofficial sources here said that the government here had scored a political point and held a key position in being able to prevent the observers from coming without its approval, at least on the French side. One Chadian official commented, "Chad has got its own back [as received] after discovering only a week ago that the French had negotiated their departure without informing the authorities here, as if they did not exist." The official added, "France is now obliged to go along with us if it wants to carry out its withdrawal according to plan."

The French military command here said that everything would be ready for the pullout on time, once the go-ahead came from Paris.

Mr Dumas acknowledged that Mr Habre's agreement must be obtained for the observers to be in place. "The withdrawal is the main thing. The observers must affirm that it has taken place," he said.

In Paris, informed sources said that Togo could replace Benin, and it was noted here that the tension between Paris and Ndjamena had eased somewhat since a senior French Foreign Ministry official, Jean Ausseil, saw President Habre at the weekend. Sources close to the Chadian Government welcomed Mr Ausseil's trip, and spoke appreciatively of comments by Mr Dumas that the choice of observers would take "Chadian feelings" into account.

Mr Dumas said that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had conceded that he would recognize the Habre regime as the legal Government of Chad, but that government is still clearly uneasy over the future.

Its information minister, Mahamat Soumaila, said in Abidjan that Tripoli in general "did not stick to its undertakings." He said that, in addition to 5,000 Libyan troops in northern Chad backing Mr Habre's ousted predecessor Goukouni Oueddei, there were 8,000 members of the Islamic Legion "claiming to be Chadians but are in fact of various nationalities." The basic problem was whether Libya "would continue to have designs on Chad," Mr Soumaila said. He feared a new outbreak of civil war "as twice before, because it is always those in Tripoli's pay who have started things."

Frolinat's Abba Said Supports Troop Pullout

AB241316 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, 24 Sep (AFP) — Mahamat Abba Said, leader of the First Army of the Frolinat and former interior minister of Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), has expressed satisfaction about the decision of France and Libya to withdraw their troops from Chad, according to a communique which reached AFP in Lagos on Monday.

"The evacuation of foreign troops from our territory is one of the main principles of our armed struggle," he specified in a communique, while expressing the hope that this "new stage will enable the Chadians to definitively settle their problem with the cooperation of the OAU." Abba Said finally appealed to "all the factions who signed the Lagos Accords to overcome their personal ambitions in the national interest."

GABON

Bongo Begins Private Visit to Hong Kong

AB242055 Libreville Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, ended his official visit to South Korea yesterday morning and began a private visit to Hong Kong on the same morning along with his wife and his delegation.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Accepts Invitation To Visit Israel

AB240955 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0844 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpt] New York, 23 Sep (AZAP) — President Mobutu Sese Seko on Sunday in New York received Israel's Alternate Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who came to renew President Hayim Herzog's invitation for him to visit Israel.

Field Marshal Mobutu accepted the invitation and the date of the visit will be fixed by diplomatic means, stated Mr Shamir at the end of the audience. He added that he and the Zairian head of state discussed bilateral cooperation between Tel Aviv and Kinshasa and examined the possible agricultural projects to which Israel could give assistance.

GHANA

Rawlings Receives Libyan Envoy on Chad Situation

AB242130 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] A special envoy from Libya, Mr Said (Habfianah), today delivered a message from Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu. Speaking to newsmen later, Mr (Habfianah) said he briefed Chairman Rawlings on the situation in Chad and the agreement between his country and France on their troops' withdrawal from Chad. He said the union between Libya and Morocco was also discussed. Mr (Habfianah) has already delivered a similar message to President Kerekou of Benin. He leaves Ghana for Lagos tomorrow to continue his mission. Present at the meeting were the special adviser to the PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata, and the interim secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Accra, Mr Abdallah.

ECA Executive Secretary Arrives in Accra for Visit

AB210913 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] The executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa [ECA], Professor Adebayo Adedeje, is in Accra for a 3-day visit to Ghana. He told newsmen at Kotoka International Airport that he will, among other things, evaluate the economic problems facing Ghana. He will also sign an agreement between the United Nations and Ghana on behalf of the Regional Institute for Population Studies which is based in Ghana. In addition, the executive secretary will hold talks with government leaders on the Regional Institute for Aerial Survey and Training in Lagos.

Professor Adedeje repeated that Ghana's economic problems are a reflection of the economic difficulties facing other African countries. He said the ECA chose to visit Ghana at this time because of the role the country plays in African affairs. The executive secretary noted that the Regional Population Institute has for the past 10 years trained about 300 high-level manpower personnel who are now playing a major role in population studies for social development. He commended Ghana's support for the institute.

On the activities of the UN Industrial Development Organization, Professor Adedeje said the ECA is determined to make Africa become more integrated in industry. He announced that the commission will set up a banking institution to promote industrial development in West Africa.

EEC Delegate Notes Nation's Economic Progress

AB230730 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Bilateral relations between Ghana and the EEC are positive. This was disclosed by the EEC delegate in Ghana, Dieter Schmidt, in Sekondi when he paid a courtesy call on the western regional secretary, Dr Don Arthur. He said there had been a marked increase in the commission's aid to Ghana. This, Mr Schmidt said, is an indication of the support the commission is giving to the government's economic recovery program. The delegate noted that despite the long drought and other factors, there had been positive signs of real progress in the economy.

The EEC delegate regretted that the commission's program to Ghana under the Lome II Convention is behind schedule. He said out of the 60 million European units of accounts provided for Ghana under the convention only half the amount has been committed. He expressed the hope that the remaining amount will be committed before the Lome III convention is signed by the end of the year.

Mr Schmidt expressed satisfaction with progress made on the rehabilitation work on the national oil palm plantation at Prestea near Takoradi, which is being financed with a EEC grant. He disclosed that the plantation is expected to make a profit of about 20 million cedis this year.

Mr Pasadeus, also of the Accra office of the EEC who accompanied Mr Schmidt, disclosed that construction work on the Axim-Mpataba-Elubo international highway also financed by the EEC is being hampered by heavy rainfall and the swampy nature of the area. He said it may not be possible for the work to be completed by December next year.

On his part, the regional secretary, Dr Don Arthur, urged the EEC to help the government to provide the much needed infrastructure in the region to ensure the abundant mineral, agricultural, and water resources in the region.

IVORY COAST

Minister Denounces Speculation on Succession

AB211200 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 21 Sep 84 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Five days after the start of the vast campaign of information and education of the party's grass roots militants, the envoys of the Ivory Coast Democratic Party-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA] are still full of energy and are continuing with their tour of the interior of the country. All of them have been speaking the lanaguage of true militancy and have been obtaining in return from their fellow citizens in the east, west, center, south, and north reactions which astonish no one: unconditional support for the action of the head of state, His Excellency Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny. This means that the exchanges are truly frank and will certainly remain so to the end of the tour.

On Tuesday afternoon, Minister of State Seri Gnoleba made very firm and harsh statements at Marcory: Controls are to be carried out within the management of the various services of the administration as was the case with the services of the Logemad [the state organization in charge of providing free quarters to civil servants]. In this way, order will be imposed in the management of state property at all levels.

For his part, [Youth and Sports Minister] Fologo condemned in Bouafle all those who have been speculating about the succession to President Houphouet-Boigny. For him, the important thing is to think about how to ensure the perenniality of his work and the primacy of the party. The minister called on all to remain vigilant: "A people who have difficulties are open to harm. And this is the time subversive elements could choose to create division. We must oppose them. We should be proud that we have had only one leader since 1945 — Houphouet-Boigny. And we must not hide the sun with the fingers of the hand. This would be ungrateful, unjust, and dishonest," he said.

Earlier, the party's envoy made it a point to clarify the problem of succession: "Comrade militants of Bouafle," he said, "some people are trying to take advantage of the unprecedented economic crisis shaking the world to distract your attention by creating doubt and sometimes even anxiety by shamelessly dwelling on preoccupations which are far from being those of our hard-working masses who have only one objective: development which brings progress in peace and freedom! Yes, a word which has become almost fashionable has been recurring in drawing room conversations and sometimes reaches you in the interior of the country: the succession, the post-Houphouet era, the 'presidency.'"

I know that this agitation does not influence you in any way, you who are asking only for rain to enable you to do your work; for roads to evacuate your products at the lowest cost; for schools for your children; for dispensaries to take care of your health; for churches, temples, and mosques to practice the religion of your choice; in short, you who are asking only for happiness in peace and freedom as the PDCI has always tried to provide them for you. In our present troubles and difficulties, let us beware of sometimes resembling the "frogs" of La Fontaine's fable who "were calling for a king...." You all know what happened to them when the king they so much desired finally arrived: He gobbled them up and ate them and they forgot everything including the "good old days" whose end they had so much desired!

LIBERIA

Carson Karpeh Appointed Information Minister

AB241500 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the Interim National Assembly, CIC [Commander in Chief] Dr Samuel K. Doe, today named Mr Carson Karpeh as minister of information. In a letter to Mr Karpeh, the head of state said: In so doing, I entertain the sincere wish that you will strive to promote the interest of the government and people of Liberia.

Dr Doe's letter further said: As we pursue our goal of returning this nation to democratic rule, we hope that you will realize the conscious role your agency has to play and that you will mobilize all the necessary resources to help achieve this goal. He concluded: In so doing, I entertain the sincere wish that you will strive to promote the interest of the government and people of Liberia.

Detainee Names Leaflet Distributor, Associates

AB241955 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] One of several persons arrested by the Justice Ministry for the circulation and publication of leaflets in Sinoe County has said that Mr Moses Teapo published the leaflets calling for the immediate release of Dr Amos Sawyer. The LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] quotes Mr Timothy Myers as saying that he told the joint security in Sinoe County to question the MOJA [Movement for Justice in Africa] boys in Sinoe since it was their method to throw a stone and hide their hands.

Mr Myers, who was speaking at a press conference recently at the Defense Ministry, named Moses Teapo, Harrison Slewiya, Magistrate Truman Madison, and Soko Payee as the Mojan's in Sinoe County. Mr Myers, who is a graduate of the University of Liberia, said he was not a Mojan from Sinoe County. LINA quotes Mr Myers as saying that he was a member of the group while at the University of Liberia that published a document alleging that the literacy teachers who were sent to Ethiopia were being trained as guerrilla fighters and not teachers.

For his part, Mr Sanders K. Sohm, another suspect, said he was on his way from work with some stencils when he met Mr Teapo and inquired about the stencils. [sentence as heard] He told the LINA that Mr Teapo informed him that he had a (?test coming up) for his students but did not allow him to read the contents of the stencils. Mr K. Sohm, however, said he got to know the contents when he picked up the carbon copy and read it, unknown to Mr Teapo. He said when he was arrested by the security, he was forced to admit that it was Mr Teapo who published the leaflet.

The director of the National Security Agency, NSA, Mr Sylvestus Thomas, who was also present at the press conference, said the leaflet in question had not only created fear among residents but had also caused businessmen to flee Greenville. Another document shown to the press listed the telecommunications and electricity network in Greenville as projects to be attacked by the so-called People's Underground Guerrilla Movement, PUGM. Mr Thomas said that the objective of the leaflet is not to help Dr Sawyer but to create chaos and fear so that there will be serious fighting in the city of Greenville. Mr Thomas said he was of the firm conviction that friends and relatives of Dr Sawyer will not be prepared to support people who write this kind of document.

MALI

President Traore Delivers National Day Speech

AB221125 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 21 Sep 84

[President Moussa Traore's address to the nation on the 24th anniversary of independence on 21 September in Bamako — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen: It is with great joy and emotion that, on this important occasion of our national day, I address all of you to take stock of the achievements of the party and of the government, and also to let you know our reflections on the political, economic, and social situation in the country.

As in years past, the organs of our party, the Democratic Union of the Malian People [UDPM], this year, too, decided to give to this day the necessary solemnity despite the seriousness of the drought. Through this decision the party wants to demonstrate its unflinching faith in the future, and its conviction that with solidarity and mutual aid, the Malian people will overcome the present difficulties which hamper their country's development.

The drought is surely the word which best sums up our current difficulties. However, drought, although a physical phenomenon, has various political, social, and economic consequences which are sometimes difficult to control. The previous agricultural season started late and was irregular throughout the entire nation leading to late sowing. In many cases, sowing had to be repeated because of lack of rain. Because we had insufficient rain, both dry and irrigated crop yields were low. Central production recorded a deficit of between 20 and 30 percent in areas where farming is organized by the Department of Rural Development, and up to 90 percent in other areas.

Fellow countrymen, within the framework of its executive mission, the government has made an important effort in the fight against drought. Instead of giving you a long list of the projects and achievements to which each of us contributed according to his position or occupation, I would rather dwell on actions for which the party and the government need your assistance in order to ensure the success of this difficult and long but exalting fight against drought.

We must from the start point out that our survival depends on our ability to adapt to a new and difficult environment, which might turn out to be a permanent one. This must include everyone. We must fight for the success of the current restructuring exercise undertaken at the level of local and regional administration, as well as by public associations. It is only through massive participation that we can share our responsibilities and effectively tackle our development problems. In this regard, all sections should endeavor to set up village (?work camps).

Efforts will henceforth be centered on water development, self-sufficiency in food, and the fight to control desert encroachment. Everyone, starting from the members of the Malian Youth Union, should be involved. To successfully carry out this policy, we must modernize and revive small-scale farming. We must adopt more effective technical methods to fight against the hostile acts of nature which reduced the volume and duration of the rains. We must mechanize our agriculture and make optimal use of our soil and protect it against damages, so that we can plant as often as necessary. It is for these reasons that the party set up the national food security fund. It will be a mutual aid and solidarity fund which will be used to improve Mali's cereal production. Self-sufficiency is the watchword of the Democratic Union of Malian People. To materialize this in our daily lives, each Malian should become an agent of development.

Malians, the result of the implementation of the 5-year development plan during last year is satisfactory. However, we have had to make many adjustments which were aimed at making up for cost-overruns as a result of inflation. As of now, more than half of the updated projects are being financed. Our resources were mostly directed to programs that contributed directly to the achievement of self-sufficiency in food. It must, however, be noted that the national participation in the financing has not yet attained the level that we expected. The Ministry of Planning, in addition to the monitoring of ongoing projects, has begun preparing the next 5-year development plan. Planning structures will be reorganized to enable us to find better solutions to present problems such as the employment problem, the restructuring of production units, and the national nutritional program. The population factor will henceforth be taken into consideration. The authorities and donor organizations have held many meetings to this effect. The last meeting took place on 19 June 1984. These meetings have proved necessary and fruitful to the financing of development projects and the evaluation of the effects of economic measures.

The most characteristic event in the economic sector is our admission into the West African Monetary Union. The demonetization of the Malian franc and the exchange exercise took place satisfactorily in strict compliance with our international commitments. This measure has broadened our economic scope. It will help our dynamic entrepreneurs and our products to win their rightful place at the subregional level. We must therefore proceed with the adaptation of our economic policies and our productive machinery for these reasons.

Efforts by the party and the government to redress our economy facilitated the implementation of the confirmation agreement signed with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. These agreements have greatly contributed to improvement of the management of public enterprises, and they can help us carry out the restructuring and reorganization of public enterprises and rural development operations. These measures, which are essentially aimed at reducing production costs, call for determination on our part. Our private industries are also facing difficulties because they are equally affected by the rigorous measures. The government will examine their situation very soon, but I must point out to all industrialists that they must abide by the commitments of the establishment agreement with the state, particularly in the employment sector. The strict respect of these commitments naturally conditions any action by the government in favor of their industries. This is a rule of the game which they must accept.

Malians, I think I have spoken enough about agriculture, animal breeding, water, and forestry throughout this year. Therefore I will only mention here some of the achievements of the government in my stocktaking. The program of restructuring of the Office du Niger has now been worked out. The Office du Niger is at the core of our food self-sufficiency policy. This program must enable us to substantially increase rice and sugar production. Moreover, the production and marketing of Mali's cotton have been reorganized within the framework of Mali South II project. Cotton production this year reached 140,000 tons, thus making Mali Africa's third largest cotton producer.

Within the framework of the protection of our ecosystem, antibushfire committees are being formed. At the same time 950 km of firebelts and lanes have been made in order to limit the spread of fires. Concerning forest development, 1,310 hectares of industrial plantations and 372 hectares of forest have been set aside.

Vaccination of livestock against epidemics continues. It will in the future fall within the framework of coordinated regional struggle. In the field of water supply to rural people, the government continues its borehole drilling and well-sinking project. Thus 540 productive boreholes have been sunk in 380 villages and at the same time 155 wells were dug. Activities for the reinforcement and rehabilitation of water-supply networks were carried out in more than 15 cities of the country. The small dams in the Gao area and the regional project for the development of the Senegal River, including the construction of the important Manantali dam, are following the normal course.

Concerning the renewable source of energy project, especially those of the electrification of Bamako and Kati (?from Burkina Faso) are under execution, thus opening up new prospects for the rural areas.

Mineral research and exploitation, notably that of gold, has been intensified. The national company for the research and exploitation of the Kalana gold mines is now busy finishing the work of its processing factory. The program of road building and maintenance is being carried out at a normal pace. Thus the Markala-Nyono road has been commissioned, while progress on the Sibare-Gao road is going to facilitate communications links with the sixth and seventh regions. In matters of communications, substantial progress has been carried out in order to overcome the limitations imposed upon us by being a landlocked country. These modernization efforts have been extended to activities of the press and national television.

The Army has made its customary contribution to the task of national construction which won for it the great prize of solidarity during the meeting of the National Council of the Democratic Union of Malian People. In addition, it has set up the mobile military medical team.

Malians, the government continues to pursue a foreign policy that militates for development, peace, and mutual aid among peoples. On the international scene, we observe a general stagnation resulting from the deadlock in peace initiatives and persistence of hotbeds. Mali, on its part will continue to make its contribution for the improvement of international relations within the framework of the OAU, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and other international bodies to which we belong. We are convinced that the OAU remains an irreplaceable instrument for the total liberation of the continent and its harmonious development. African states must devote themselves to the effective implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action. This strategy will permit the real economic integration of the continent. It is an effective response to the legitimate aspirations of the African peoples. Current problems should not divert our attention from the fundamental objectives for Africa. The Western Sahara and Chadian conflicts must find final solutions through open and direct dialogue and harmonization of viewpoints.

At the moment when we are celebrating the 24th anniversary of the proclamation of our independence, our thoughts naturally go to our brothers in Namibia, South Africa, and Palestine who are courageously struggling for their independence and dignity. They will continue to have our support.

Henceforth Mali is in total harmony with its surroundings. Never have we known such a long period of understanding and friendship with all our neighbors. Never have our economic and social relations with our neighbors been so solidly based on many agreements which take into account our mutual interests, the solidarity of our destinies, and fraternity of our peoples. This is the right place to reaffirm that we will at all times support all measures to be taken within the framework of subregional organizations to which we belong. I would take this opportunity to express the gratitude of our people, our party — the UDPM — and our government to all the countries and friendly organizations that contributed side by side with us to the implementation of our development policy. This contribution, which we highly appreciate, has permitted us to correctly execute our food aid program and to carry out current institutional reforms. Thanks to the great understanding of our partners, our cooperation today is increasingly based on more diversified programs [words indistinct] and which are easier to manage and also more fraternal.

We must also on this occasion pay homage to the officials and representatives of the numerous private organizations which are working alongside our people. They have given us considerable support and have each time permitted the local adaptation of programs to the real needs of the people. Our national efforts, together with the moral and material support of an efficient and discrete international cooperation, gives us the right to calmly hope and believe in the future. I call the entire Malian nation to maintain this determination. There is no doubt that we will win. Long live Mali! Long live the Republic!

NIGERIA

Foreign Minister Returns From France, FRG Visits

AB240916 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The Nigerian minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, is back home after a 1-week official visit to France and West Germany. Addressing newsmen on arrival at the Murtala Mohammed Airport, Lagos, Dr Gambari said that the prospect of a successful OAU summit was brighter now than ever before. He explained that this was as a result of recent developments in Africa. The minister referred to the agreement reached by Libya and France to withdraw their troops from Chad and Nigeria's decision to quit from the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara as good signs that the next summit scheduled to take place in November in Addis Ababa would hold.

Addressing newsmen in Bonn, West Germany, the minister said that the Nigerian economy would be weaker if the government accepted the present conditions of the IMF for a loan. Dr Gambari explained that among other things the IMF insisted that Nigeria should devalue her currency and remove all subsidies on domestic consumption of oil. He made it clear that Nigeria would have no alternative than to look for other avenues to obtain loans if negotiations with the IMF broke down.

On the Nigerian fugitives, Dr Gambari said that the government would continue to take diplomatic initiatives aimed at bringing them back to account for their stewardship.

Explains Withdrawal From Committee

AB241545 Lagos NAN in English 1530 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, Sept 24 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, said in Lagos today that Nigeria withdrew from the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara because the organisation had not been able to convene a meeting of the committee.

Dr Gamabi told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that Nigeria's membership of the committee did not give it enough room for flexibility in exercising the available options on the Western Sahara issue. He said that the Federal Military Government's policy on Western Sahara would always be guided by the principle of respect for self-determination. The minister said that the policy was designed to promote independence for the territory. He noted that "both the previous government and the Federal Military Government had been working very hard to resolve the Western Sahara problem," adding "we shall not relent our efforts in this direction."

Nigeria announced its withdrawal from the committee on Saturday "because the committee was unable to discharge the mandate entrusted to it."

Idiagbon: FMG To Concentrate on Set Objectives

AB241850 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government says it will no longer entertain frivolous and selfish actions capable of diverting its attention from set objectives. It believes that the present administration's responsive attitude toward genuine demands since its inception is being misconstrued.

Answering questions on a Radio Nigeria public affairs program, "Matters of the Moment," the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, observed that many Nigerians now believed that the economy had picked up sufficiently for them to embark on strikes and work to rule [form of protest in which work rules are followed to the letter in an effort to hamper the working order]. He said that although there had been an improvement in the country's foreign reserves, this did not mean that the economy had returned to normal. The chief of staff said that Nigerians should adjust to the economic realities and make genuine sacrifices for the survival of the nation. Brigadier Idiagbon described the present state of the country's external reserves as encouraging, pointing out that it had achieved a level which could offset the value of imports in 4 months. He stressed that the present administration would continue to ensure a comfortable level of external reserves.

On the criteria for the allocation of import licenses, the chief of staff noted that the government is adhering strictly to the laid-down deadline for the exercise. According to him, the overall guiding principle was to spread the available foreign exchange to cover as many sectors and subsectors as possible. He denied the allegation of favoritism and discrimination in the allocation of import licenses, adding that the guidelines were duly considered and established by the appropriate committee.

The chief of staff said that the issue of creation of new states was not on the program of the present administration. He contended that establishment and running of new states involved a lot of additional expenditure which could not be sustained at this time of economic hardship. Brigadier Idiagbon stated that for this reason the present administration had not given any thought to the issue and did not intend to do so in the near future.

Asked to comment on the continued high prices of some consumer goods, the chief of staff noted that the present administration had made considerable efforts to ensure adequate supply of essential commodities. To this end, he said a sum of 200 million naira had been provided for the immediate importation of essential commodities; however, he said that the Federal Government realized that the supply was still inadequate since market prices reflected this scarcity. In an attempt to ease the situation, he added, the Federal Military Government decided to set up the Essential Commodities Committee in the Ministry Commerce and Industry. The committee, he said, was charged with the responsibility allocating these commodities to state governments, which in turn would ensure that they reach the grassroots at control prices.

French-Libyan Withdrawal From Chad Viewed

AB242030 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Ishola Dada commentary]

[Text] For some time now, Libya has been in the news and this is prompted by her surprise move in North Africa. Early last month, in a surprise move, Libya patched up relations with Morocco and agreed on a union of the two countries. Previously, the two nations have not been seeing eye to eye over the thorny question of Western Sahara. Morocco had annexed Western Sahara when the Spanish colonial power left that African territory. On the other hand, Libya gave her full support to the Polisario Front fighting for the independence of the territory. In fact, Libya was one of the first countries which, like Algeria, recognized the self-proclaimed Saharawi Arab Republic, the political arm of the Polisario Front. Observers of the North African scene had not been able to discern the true meaning of this Libyan move and the implications of the union with Morocco.

The latest development is that Libya and France have agreed to a simultaneous withdrawal of their troops from Chad beginning tomorrow, 25 September. France sent 2,000 troops to Chad about a year ago, ostensibly in response to a request from President Hissein Habre to fight back former President Goukouni Oueddei's aggression, whose forces had captured northern Chad with help from Libya. Though Libya is considered helping Goukouni's forces, up to the surprise announcement, it had denied the presence of its troops in Chad. [sentence as heard] Although details of the agreement between France and Libya had not been made public, little bits of information about the accord show that the withdrawal of troops will take 2 months to complete. Libya will, however, not withdraw from the disputed Aozou Strip. This decision to withdraw, which took the French-backed Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre by surprise, has been applauded by the opposition movement in Goukouni Oueddei-controlled northern Chad as well as by various global and international organizations; however, the move has set in motion chains of reactions in certain quarters and this is not surprising anyway.

Zaire, which has 2,000 troops in Chad supporting Hissein Habre, was taken by surprise and has been seeking clarification on the troop pullout from France. In fact, a day after the announcement, the French adviser on African affairs flew to Kinshasa with a message from President Mitterrand to President Mobutu. And the following day, the Zairian leader, on his way to the United States, called at the Elysee Palace in Paris apparently for talks with President Mitterrand on the pullout. Back home in Paris, France, in an effort to placate the Ndjamena government, said her troops would go back to Chad if Hissein Habre called for French help. There has been no reaction so far to this statement from the Libyan Government. But one wonders why France agreed to the withdrawal if she was in doubt about the practicability of the withdrawal. This and other questions remain to be answered in order to bring the rationale behind the present move into proper perspective.

The move to pull out is itself a laudable decision, but what is in doubt now is whether this alone will lead to peace and stability in Chad. It is important therefore for both Libya and France to take the two warring parties into confidence and go further than merely withdrawing their troops only to give room for renewed fighting among the factions. The OAU should join hands with the two countries to bring the warring parties to a roundtable conference to negotiate for a settlement that will allow peace to reign supreme in Chad. The ordinary Chadians have had enough of the international political check in the beleaguered African nation.

Continued Closure of Borders Explained

AB231005 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Dele Kuku commentary]

[Text] For some time now there have been hues and cries over Nigeria's closure of her borders with neighboring countries in the West African subregion. Most of the affected countries do not appear to realize the necessity for Nigeria's continued closure of her borders with member-states of ECOWAS, in their belief that one of the major provisions of the charter of that organization is the unrestricted mobility of human and material resources within West Africa.

Their anxiety stems from the fact that Nigeria has been known for her unequivocal support and struggle for the unity and solidarity of African peoples. Nigeria is identified for her consistent moral and material support for the emancipation of the continent from colonialism and racism, and also contributed immensely to the economic survival of most economically impoverished African states. Furthermore, it is on record that Nigeria played a significant role in the formation of ECOWAS and has been doing everything within her limited resources to see to the survival and growth of the organization.

The big question however is: How come Nigeria suddenly becomes adamant in her refusal to reopen her borders with neighboring West African countries, since this is a negation of the spirit of ECOWAS? It is a known fact that countries only close their borders in times of national emergency, that is when the territorial security of a country cannot be guaranteed. Hence, most of her West African neighbors are baffled at the continued closure of the Nigerian borders since the security of the nation seems very certain. This, no doubt, is the same plastic interpretation of what national security is all about, for it is not only in the realm of political upheavals that the security of a nation can be jeopardized, since economic problems can determine the overall well-being of a nation. It is against this background therefore that we must view the economic sabotage that has been perpetrated on Nigeria by unfriendly nationals of neighboring West African states as the mutual reason for the continued closure of Nigeria's borders with her sister African states. For how else would one explain the situation where Nigeria has to buy and import goods, particularly essential food items with her scarce foreign exchange to alleviate the suffering of her own people, only to find that the commodities are being carted away to neighboring countries by unscrupulous aliens who seem blind to Nigeria's monumental problems.

If the argument of citizens of the affected states is that they must survive and Nigeria as the big brother should sympathize with them, they ought to know that Nigeria, as the most populated black nation in the world, has a herculean task of feeding her teeming population which includes a lot of citizens from neighboring West African countries who have been entering Nigeria lately in search of imagined fortunes. Trafficking in Nigerian currency notes by these fellow West Africans was the main reason for the change of the colors of the naira.

Since no people or country can commit national suicide in the name of brotherhood or regional solidarity, Nigeria has taken the right path in her struggle for economic salvation. Our neighbors must look for ways to help Nigeria in solving the problems that gave rise to the present situation. It is not enough to send delegations to Lagos to appeal to the Federal Military Government to reopen the borders. They must reorientate their people through a mass-publicity campaign on the dangers of the nefarious economic activities of their nationals on the Nigerian economy, since any adverse effect on it has a boomerang effect on the economies of other West African states.

SENEGAL

Officers Depart To Monitor Chad Troop Withdrawal

AB241425 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Dakar, Sept 24 (AFP) — Thirty-(?one) Senegalese officers were leaving here later today aboard a French military transport for Chad to monitor the mutual pullout of French and Libyan troops due to begin at midnight, informed sources said here today. The sources said the observers group would be commanded by Colonel Thierno Ndiaye, who headed the Senegalese contingent of an inter-African peacekeeping force stationed in Chad from November 1981 to June 1982. The request for observers from Senegal to oversee the troop pullout was apparently made during a visit here last week by French Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci.

A French Army officer accompanying Mr. Nucci remained in the Senegalese capital this week to help prepare the deployment of the observer force, sources said.

Following the announcement of the surprise Franco-Libyan accord on September 17, it was expected that observers from both Senegal and Benin would be sent to Chad to monitor the operation. But the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre has opposed the presence of Beninese troops on its territory, and Libya and France are expected to choose another state to participate in the move.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Air Afrique Airline Director

AB241815 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The managing director of the multinational airline company Air Afrique was received this morning at the presidential palace in Lome. Aoussou Koffi is in Lome to discuss with the president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, issues concerning Air Afrique, whose pilots and technicians have been on strike since 11 September this year.

The managing director of the company is in Lome to report to President Eyadema on developments in the situation and the practical measures he has taken to prevent other strikes in the future. Mr Aoussou Koffi said he was satisfied and reassured by the advice given him by General Eyadema, who it will be recalled is the current chairman of the conference of heads of member-states of the Air Afrique Airline Company.

[Begin Koffi recording] Since September 11 the company has been faced with a strike by its pilots and technicians. Since that date the company has been doing all in its power to ensure a maximum number of flights in spite of the strike. As President Eyadema is the current chairman of the head of states conference and Minister Tsala is the current chairman of the ministerial committee, it was normal and even indispensable for me to come to Lome to report to the president on the strike.

I told him of measures taken so far to ensure flights and measures being taken to prevent such wildcat strikes in the future. I was highly satisfied to realize what I was already aware of, and that is that President Eyadema approves of all the measures I have taken up to now, and he has encouraged me to save the company and prevent such situations in the future. I am therefore reassured and prepared to try and save what is left to be saved. [end recording]

Four-Nation Experts Meeting on Security Ends

AB231411 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] The quadripartite meeting of experts from Togo, Ghana, Benin, and Nigeria on cooperation in the field of security in the subregion ended yesterday morning in Lome.

The deliberations were meant to find the most effective means that will help to bring an end to all kinds trafficking at the borders of these countries. The aim of this is to extend peace to all the social groups of our respective countries and to ensure the complete freedom of individuals and groups of people.

At the end of the meeting the experts of the four countries, namely Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo, addressed a special motion of thanks to General Eyadema, the founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People, for all the facilities he placed at their disposal during their stay in Togo.

In his closing address, Mr Mawuko Ajavon, member of the Central Committee and minister of justice and keeper of the seals, declared that the Lome meeting was the starting point of a new form of subregional cooperation that must permit each of our peoples to emancipate itself in peace and freedom.

The justice minister further stated that this first quadripartite meeting that was held in Lome on 6 and 7 August 1984 at the level of the ministers of foreign affairs and cooperation and ministers of interior meant to examine the ways and means that will lead to strengthening security and guaranteeing peace and stability of the four brotherly countries. They decided at the end of their meeting to set up a committee of experts and to give it the following mandate:

1. Drawing up of an extradition treaty;
2. Drawing up of a customs agreement to combat trafficking in currency, arms, and drugs;
3. Drawing up of more clearly defined procedures to follow in the field of criminal police cooperation.

Minister Ajavon further stated that the ministerial meeting charged the experts with the task of concluding the deliberations within a period of 6 weeks so that the ministers can, in their turn, examine the draft proposals to be submitted to the head of state for their consideration.

He also said that this challenge has been happily met by the experts, because during the set period they managed to draw up the texts at the national level before coming to attend the quadripartite meeting which started last Friday in Lome.

Mr Ajavon also stressed that the tasks that lay ahead of the delegates at the Lome quadripartite meeting were not easy because they had to examine all the various draft documents prepared by each country before engaging in the deliberations that resulted in the drawing up of a common text that was likely to win the approval of the competent authorities of the four brotherly countries.

ANGOLA

Motion Passed by Diplomatic Meeting

MB241024 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 23 Sep 84

["Motion" passed at the third meeting of the heads of diplomatic and consular missions of the People's Republic of Angola on 22 September, in Luanda — read by Antonio Lengue, director of the Department of External Affairs of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee]

[Text] The participants of the third meeting of the diplomatic and consular missions of the People's Republic of Angola convened in their third session in Luanda at Futungo de Belas, 20-22 September and unanimously decided to adopt a motion of support for Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, for the clear-sighted manner in which he has oriented and led the destiny of the Angolan people, the MPLA-Labor Party, and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola. The third meeting also decided to congratulate Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of his election to the presidency of the party, the nation, and the Republic.

The third meeting also hails Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' successes on the occasion of his recent official visits to the Egyptian Arab Republic, to the French Republic, to the Italian Republic, and to the Kingdom of Spain. During these visits, he was able to explain and clarify to the governments of those countries the Angola Government's policy in external affairs and other fields, which was necessary to unmask the disinformation propaganda orchestrated by certain Western press media in the pay of the international imperialism.

The third meeting also greets, through Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the day of the national hero that has just been celebrated and reiterates its unwavering support for the teachings of the late Comrade President Antonio Agostinho Neto, the immortal leader of the Angolan revolution. The heads of the diplomatic and consular missions support unconditionally Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' speech on 20 September on the occasion of the opening of this third session and reaffirm their total willingness and commitment to implement the guidelines contained in it. Futungo de Belas, Luanda, 22 September 1984, year of defense and production.

Armed Forces Report Killing 22 UNITA 'Bandits'

MB220615 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] More than 22 UNITA bandits were killed and large quantity of war materiel was captured during operations launched in the past few days by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola soldiers in the provinces of Huambo, Cuando Cubango, and Moxico. In these operations, 48 peasants, who were kept in the bush by the UNITA, which had stolen their belongings, were released.

UNITA Communique Details Military Actions 23-28 Aug

MB211116 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Communique from the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola General Staff, for 23 to 28 August, signed by Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, UNITA chief of staff, issued on 29 August at Jamba — read by an unidentified senior UNITA General Staff member]

[Text] In Luanda Province, pursuing our actions within the context of our advance on the capital, our forces attacked Caxito township, located 50 km northeast of Luanda, at 0430 on 28 August. Some 37 People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] troops were killed, 6 Ural trucks and 2 BTR-60's were destroyed, and 2 FAPLA officers were taken prisoner.

In Cuanza Norte Province, the Cuban barracks at Suige and Jose Costa, located 19 and 22 km southwest of Bula Atumba respectively, were attacked on 23 August. The township of Caculo Cabaca, situated 15 km west of Sanzatumbo, was attacked and taken by assault on 26 August. As a result of the total demoralization of the MPLA forces, this action led the enemy forces at Banga and (Guzo) townships to flee to Golungo Alto.

In Huambo Province, the Boas Aguas township, located about 31 km east of Huambo, was taken on 25 August. Some 41 FAPLA men were killed and, eight trucks, six residences of FAPLA and Cuban personnel, the Benguela railroad station, and local electricity generating plant were destroyed.

In Huila Province, the enemy barracks at Cherequera, 30 km north of Matala, was captured on 27 August.

In Cuandao Cubango Province, a landmine explosion destroyed a Cuban KrAz truck at a place 29 km north of Caiundo, killing the occupants of the vehicle.

In Bie Province, a Cuban motorized force was attacked on 28 August at a place 29 km southwest of Andulo, resulting in the death of 12 Cubans and the destruction of 14 trucks, 2 BRDM-2 armored cars, and 1 PT-76 tank.

In Moxico Province, commandos carried out an operation inside Luena town at about 0300 on 28 August, killing 15 border troops and 2 Cubans and destroying the water pumping station. About 0430, a Cuban base in the same town was heavily attacked.

In Lunda Province, a military column was attacked on 25 August between Malanje and Xandei. During the attack, 21 FAPLA men were killed and 6 trucks were destroyed.

During this period, 195 FAPLA personnel were killed and 18 were captured. Some 29 Cubans were killed, 168 arms of various types were captured, and 2 BRDM's, 1 tank, 3 BTR's, and 28 trucks were destroyed. A total of 960 members of the public were freed.

UNITA suffered 7 dead, 19 wounded, and 1 missing. Fatherland or death. United, we shall win. Jamba, 29 August 1984, year of the Anti-Cuban Patriotic Front.

[Signed] Brigadier Deomostenes Amos Chilingutila, chief of the General Staff

BOTSWANA

BPP Supporters Demonstrate in Francistown

MB250836 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] More than 300 supporters of the Botswana People's Party[BPP], mostly women, demonstrated yesterday morning against the nomination of five local councillors into the Francistown town council. The demonstrators, who were led by the BPP MP for the northeast constituency, Mr Kenneth Nkhwa, marched through the main street in Francistown to the district commissioner's offices carrying placards written: "We don't recognize the nominated councillors." The BPP complained to the district commissioner, saying that the nomination of five councillors by the minister of local government and lands was undemocratic and unfair.

It argued that as the councillors elected represented the clear and proper aspirations of the electorate based on the number of votes, there has to be [word indistinct] in the number of votes if there was any need for more councillors. The BPP further charged that representation imposed on people is dictatorial and oppressive and should not be allowed in a free and democratic nation.

The nominations of the five councillors in Francistown has given the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] a majority of two councillors over the BPP, which had won seven wards out of 11 fought for in the 8 September elections. The BPP had won nine of the 14 wards in the northeast constituency, but the nomination of the seven councillors from the BDP in that constituency has placed the BPP two councillors behind the ruling party. The BPP president, Dr Knight Maripe, has assured his supporters of more demonstrations if the government does not change its decision.

COMOROS

Opposition Groups Call for Elections Boycott

AB251007 Paris AFP in French 0851 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, 24 Sep (AFP) — Three Comoran opposition groups, the National United Front of the Comoros, the Comoran Democratic Front, and the Union for the Democratic Republic of the Comoros, on Monday in Paris jointly called for the boycott of the presidential elections scheduled for 30 September. President Ahmed Abdallah is seeking a second term of office and will undoubtedly be the only candidate in the elections.

In a communique issued in Paris, the three groups denounce the "repressive acts, intimidations, and violations of constitutional provisions connected with the election." They call on "the entire population to show their determination and their faith" in the struggle to permit "the Comoran people to fully assume their responsibilities."

LESOTHO

Zambian Prime Minister To Visit 1-5 Oct

MB231154 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that The Honorable Nalumino Mundia, prime minister of the Republic of Zambia, will pay an official visit to Lesotho from 1 to 5 October 1984. Mr Mundia will visit Lesotho at the invitation of the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

MADAGASCAR

Health Minister Returns From USSR, SRV, Congo

MB241003 Antananrio Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Jean Jacques Seraphin, Malagasy health minister, returned home this morning after a visit which took him to Brazzaville, Congo, the USSR, and the SRV. At Ivato International Airport, he was welcomed by his close aides, led by Samuel Adriamajato, secretary general of the ministry. Also present at the airport was the Vietnamese charge d'affaires and the WHO representative in Madgascar.

In Brazzaville, he first took part together with Professor (Rakotomavo Samuel) in the election of the WHO regional director for Africa. Before the death of Dr Quenum, on 15 August, the minister said, five candidates were on the list for the post: candidates from Kenya, Botswana, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Dr Quenum himself. As activity to elect a new director was under way, a message from Captain Thomas Sankara of Burkina arrived in Brazzaville. The message called for postponing the election. Discussions took place before a final decision was reached. Finally, the meeting elected the candidate presented by Cameroon. The new WHO regional director for Africa is Dr (Mone Kodjo).

In the SRV and in the USSR, the health minister was able to familiarize himself with the reality of those countries in the field of health. In Hanoi, an important general cooperation agreement was signed between the SRV and the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

GDR Delegation Visits, Signs Agreement

MB241123 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] A delegation of the GDR Association for Friendship with Peoples leaves Madagascar tonight. Yesterday a cooperation and friendship agreement between the GDR organization and its Malagasy counterpart was signed. This accord defines the efforts to be made by the two parties to secure international peace and the progress of their respective peoples.

The accord also provides for the exchange of delegations, cultural and historic activities, and the promotion of knowledge of the internal and external policy followed by each country. The national anniversaries of the two countries will also be commemorated with the strengthening of [word indistinct] exchanges, exhibitions, conferences, and other activities, and also the teaching of the languages of the two countries.

The cooperation and friendship agreement marked the end of a week-long visit to Madagascar by the GDR delegation. The agreement was signed by Mr Bruno Kiesler, head of the visiting GDR delegation, and Mr (Arsene Lakitier), Madagascar chairman of the Association for Friendship between the GDR and Democratic Republic of Madagascar. A congratulatory letter has been sent to Mr Erich Honecker, chairman of GDR Council of State, and the GDR people on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the GDR's founding.

A meeting with the Political Bureau of the Congress Party for Malagasy Independence-Democratic Committee to support the Malagasy Socialist Revolution [AKFM-KDRSM] was also held this week. At the meeting, the two parties reviewed relations existing between the Socialist Party of Germany and the AKFM-KDRSM. The AKFM-KDRSM Political Bureau was represented at the meeting by Richard Andriamanjato, Arsene Lakitier, (Kiemora Ramamuntsou), and (Paul Rabiamananjara).

It is worthwhile to note that the GDR Solidarity Committee is in close cooperation with [words indistinct] to promote the struggle of peoples. It also met with the [words indistinct] Malagasy Association. The GDR delegation will now visit Benin and Ghana.

UK State Minister Rifkind Pays 3-Day Visit

MB211550 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Britain is to provide Mozambique with an extra 5 million pounds in immediate aid and 2,000 tons of grain. The visiting minister of state in the British Foreign Office, Malcolm Rifkind, announced the emergency aid package after talks in Maputo yesterday with Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano. The aid is in addition to almost 5 million pounds already pledged for 1983-84, and 9,000 tons of food aid for this year, which has not yet arrived.

Mr Rifkind also held talks yesterday with the governor of the Bank of Mozambique, Prakash Ratilal, and Security Minister Sergio Vieira, as well as a meeting with British businessmen working in Maputo. Today he is meeting Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso and Transport Minister Alcantara Santos, who will take him on a tour of Maputo port.

Mr Rifkind is expected to meet President Samora Machel tomorrow morning before leaving for Malawi. His talks in Maputo concerned the general political situation in southern Africa and the overall British aid program to Mozambique. Mr Rifkind is the minister responsible for Britain's relations with African countries.

Meets With Machel

MB231219 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel received Malcolm Rifkind, minister of state in the British Foreign Office, in Maputo yesterday. Malcolm Rifkind regarded the meeting with the Mozambique head of state as very positive. Present at the meeting were Joaquim Chissano and Daniel Mbanze, foreign and deputy foreign ministers respectively, and the British ambassador to Mozambique.

The British minister visited our country to discuss with local authorities the political situation in the central region [as heard] of the African Continent and to analyze the British economic aid program to Mozambique for next year. Malcolm Rifkind, who concluded a 3-day visit to Mozambique, held talks during his stay in Maputo with the officials of the Ministeries of Foreign Affairs, Security, Ports and Railroads, and Merchant Shipping as well as with the governor of the Central Bank of Mozambique. He also inspected Maputo port and the Maputo urban transport enterprise, which has many Leyland buses supplied by the British Leyland Company.

Further on Machel Meeting

MB231137 Johannebsurg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel of Mozambique says he does not believe that the South African Government has in any way violated the nonaggression treaty signed between the two countries 6 months ago. The BBC reports that President Machel made this statement in talks in Maputo with the British Foreign Office minister responsible for African affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind.

The corporation says the remark can be seen as a rebuttal of recent suggestions that South Africa supports dissident movements in Mozambique. The report says that President Machel praised Western countries for their support of Mozambique but urged them to impress upon South Africa the need for internal reform as a way to peace in the region.

Machel Receives Message from Soviet Leaders

MB230540 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has received a congratulatory message from the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the national liberation armed struggle. After recalling Soviet support during the armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism, the message states that today the Soviets express sympathy and solidarity with the Mozambican people in the struggle against their enemies in defense of their revolutionary achievements.

Foreign Delegations Arrive for Anniversary

MB221148 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign delegations that have been invited to attend the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the commencement of the national liberation armed struggle are continuing to arrive in Maputo. A delegation of the muncipality of the Italian town of Reggio Emilia landed at the airport this morning. It is led by (Cuggo Benocchi), chairman of that Italian municipality. It was welcomed by Alberto Massanvanhane, chairman of the Executive Council of Maputo city.

Lieutenant General Pak Chung-Kuk, vice minister of defense of the DPRK, and Colonel General Naumenko of the Soviet ground forces arrived in Maputo yesterday leading delegations of their respective countries to the celebrations of 25 September. Also present in Maputo are delegations from Swaziland and Malawi.

MOZAMBIQUE

Information Minister Returns From U.S. Visit

MB230531 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco returned to Maputo this morning after a working visit to Washington. Information Minister Cabaco attended a 2-day seminar held in the U.S. capital on the theme "Barriers to Objective Information on Southern Africa."

Addressing the seminar, he said that U.S. journalists had a tendency to present southern Africa from a U.S. viewpoint, resulting in the distortions of the reality of the African Continent. What is happening is that we are being judged in every aspect of life from your viewpoint, Jose Luis Cabaco stressed.

He also called on the U.S. news media to place correspondents in various southern African countries, instead of covering the area from South Africa. This call by the Mozambican minister accords with the Kadoma Declaration approved by the Frontline ministers. According to that declaration, correspondents of the international news organizations based in South Africa are in principle prevented from entering Frontline countries for reporting purposes.

Machel Promotes Defense Minister, Others

MB231213 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Marshal Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, in Maputo this morning presided over a ceremony promoting and commissioning members of the Mozambique Armed Forces.

These promotions are a deserved recognition of your merits, Marshal Samora Machel stated. You have irrigated this nation with your sweat and your blood, and you have created a strong Army and a solid, unitary state. You have created national unity, and today you are building the Mozambique nation, Marshal Samora Machel stressed.

During his brief address, the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution hailed the spirit of sacrifice demonstrated by these members of the Mozambique Armed Forces in the defense of the liberation of the majority. We are here to be inspired and to pursue the national reconstruction struggle, President Samora Machel said in conclusion.

The promotions include the awarding of the rank of full general to Defense Minister Alberto Chipande and to Filipe Samuel Magaia, the first Frelimo defense secretary, posthumously. Ranks of colonel general were awarded to Deputy Defense Minister Sebastiao Mabote and Gaza Provincial Military Commander Fernando Matavele.

Other members of the Mozambique Armed Forces were promoted today in recognition of their active, dedicated, and heroic participation in the national liberation armed struggle led by the FPLM, for the competence and dedication demonstrated in carrying out their tasks, and also for their exemplary behavior and loyalty to the fatherland, to the party, and to socialism.

Marshal Samora Machel, the supreme Mozambique Armed Forces commander, also announced that over 250 members of the Armed Forces had been promoted to captain, about 1,000 to lieutenant, and about 1,000 to second lieutenant. After the ceremony, President Samora Machel posed together with the newly promoted officers in front of the Executive Council hall of Maputo city.

Armed Forces Launch Attacks in Inhambane

MB212028 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] A total of 10 armed bandits have been killed by the Mozambique Armed Forces attacks on two bandit bases in the districts of Morrumbene and Massinga in Inhambane Province. Sources in the provincial military command, which circulated the information, told our reporting team in Inhambane that another eight armed bandits were killed in Macuacua, also in Massinga District, when they tried to attack a place where a public meeting was taking place. According to the same sources, three criminals were also captured in Malaissa, in Jangamo locality, while on a reconnaissance mission.

The slogan "Total annihilation of the armed bandits" is being implemented with enthusiasm by our Armed Forces in the affected zones. Also praiseworthy is the active participation of the people in the denunciation and capture of bandits infiltrated in their midst.

'Armed Bandits' Surrender, Captured Report Says

MB230838 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 23 Sep 84

[From the "Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] Some 16 armed bandits recently gave themselves up to the FPLM in Inhambane Province, while 6 others were captured in Nampula Province, and 6 more taken prisoner in Cabo Delgado Province. In Cabo Delgado, an advanced post of the criminals was destroyed, while in Nampula 53 members of the public, who were held by the evildoers, were released.

In Mocuba and (Nauanje), Zambezia Province, our forces annihilated 23 bandits during two clashes which took place in those regions. Meanwhile, in Boane District, Amputo Province, 2 bandits were shot dead and 19 head of cattle recovered when our forces stormed a camp of the criminals.

Briefs

New Ambassadors — President Samora Machel this morning received the credentials of Niels Lassen and (Roger Bauer), ambassadors of the Kingdom of Denmark and Canada, respectively. [Excerpt] */Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Sep 84 MB/*

Foreign Investment Official Named — A Mozambican deputy minister has been appointed to head an office for the promotion of foreign investment. He is Eneias Comiche, deputy minister of finance. His new responsibility follows the publication last month of an investment law which lays down the rules for foreign investers and explains their legal rights. [Text] */Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 21 Sep 84 MB/*

NAMIBIA

SWATF Commander Says SWAPO Weakening Militarily

MB210949 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0846 GMT 21 Sep 84

[Text] Windhoek, Sept 21, SAPA — SWAPO's military position was weakening and the organisation was finding it increasingly difficult to recruit replacements for large-scale personnel losses, the officer commanding the South-West African Territory Force [SWATF], Major-General George Meiring, said at Tsuemeb today.

Since 1978, the SWATF had killed more than 8,500 SWAPO insurgents, General Meiring said, addressing the opening of the Tsumeb agricultural show. "In an attempt to curb losses, the major part of the terrorist component are deployed in civlian clothing among the people, but the security forces are still succeeding in identifying and eliminating these elusive terrorists," he said. Much of the SWATF's success was ascribed to information provided by civilians.

General Meiring said SWAPO had to rely on forcible recruitment, which caused estrangement from the people. It also relied on southern Angola as a basis area for operations into SWA/Namibia and was dependent on the goodwill of the Angolan Government. In exchange, SWAPO had to make half its armed forces available to the Angolan Government for use against rebel UNITA forces, General Meiring said.

Official Says SWANU To Unite With SWAPO

MB230947 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] The South-West Africa National Union [SWANU], Namibia's oldest black nationalist movement, plans to unite with fighters of SWAPO. SWANU Vice President Imbo Uirab, who is visiting Gaborone, said yesterday that his organisation had dropped the pro-South African policies which, he said, had been imposed on SWANU by its former president, Moses Katjiuongua. Mr Katjiuongua was ousted from office at a party congress early this month during which SWANU adopted a revolutionary socialist platform and decided to unite with SWAPO, which has been fighting South African occupation of Namibia for the last 18 years.

Mr Uirab said that following a recent ban on SWAPO meetings in Namibia by South African authorities, his group had emerged as the dominant political organization inside the disputed territory.

Reportage on Six Detainees at UK Consulate

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha on Government Decision

MB241902 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1859 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 24, SAPA — The government would announce decisions it had taken concerning the six detainees at the British Consulate in Durban at 10 pm today, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said in Cape Town. Opening the Cape National Party Congress, he said the government's decisions had already been put to the British Government.

"The South African Government finds itself in a serious dilemma, not only the British Government," he said. "The government cannot accept that the enforcements of the law in South Africa is thwarted by the actions and decisions of any other government, just as little as any government will accept that South Africas actions will thwart the enforcement of the law in that country."

The government realised that the British Government found itself in a dilemma regarding the detainees and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, had both in his public statements and his handling of the matter acted "not circumspectly."

"The government took certain decisions which were conveyed to the British Government and these decisions will now be made public at 10 oclock tonight. "I can, however, say that these decision do not conflict with the Vienna Convention regarding consulate relationships, but are in keeping with our viewpoint that we cannot accept external actions to thwart the enforcement of law in South Africa."

Just as other countries had made provisions to take extraordinary steps under extraordinary circumstances to protect their citizens, there was no reason why South Africa should not take steps in its security legislation to ensure the security of the South African public, Mr Botha said.

South Africa's security legislation was the result of an extensive inquiry and investigation by the chief justice and his commissioners and was implemented exactly as the commission of inquiry proposed. "I hope the British Government will accept this," the president said. "South Africa is not under the sovereignty of any country, nor is it the colony of any other country," Mr Botha said.

UK Ties Said 'Delicate'

MB242215 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2213 GMT 24 Sep 84

[By Andrew Braid]

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 24, SAPA — It would be an understatement to say that diplomatic relations between South Africa and Britain were "delicate," the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said here tonight. He was speaking at a press conference called to outline the South African position on the six detainees seeking refuge in the British Consulate in Durban.

Mr Botha made it clear that relations between South Affica and Britain were at a critical stage because of Britain's refusal to evict the detainees, or to allow South African police into the building to serve detention notices on them. It was obvious that Pretoria's tolerance of the British Government's reluctance to come to terms with South Africa's request in respect of the six detainees, was wearing thin and events were rapidly leading to a major confrontation between the two governments, Mr Botha said.

The foreign minister was speaking after the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had expressed South Africa's views on the matter in his opening address at the Cape National Party Congress. At his press conference, Mr Pik Botha made it clear his government had reached the end of its tether regarding the British attitude and had decided to resort to international law to make its position absolutely clear. He announced that, in retaliation for the British standpoint, the government had decided not to return to London four South African nationals facing charges under British customs and excise legislation.

Mr Botha said his government was not prepared to have the British "flout South African law" by allowing the six detainees to continue to seek refuge in the British Consulate, while Pretoria was expected to hand over the four South African nationals. Mr Botha made it quite clear that as long as the British Government refused to hand over the six, South Africa would refuse to extradite the four South African nationals under bail to the British courts.

Four UK Accused To Remain

MB242120 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2115 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 24, SAPA — The South African Government had decided that it would no longer return four South Africans facing charges of contravening the British customs and exise legislation, the minister of foreign affars, Mr Pik Botha, said tonight. He called a press conference to announce the government's decision regarding six detainees taking refuge in the British Consulate in Durban.

He released four aide memoires which had been passed between the South African ambassador in London, Dr Denis Worral, and the Foreign and Commonwealth office. In these, South Africa claims that the British Government had acted contrary to the Vienna Convention on consular relations, which provides that a consular posts function consists of performing any functions that are entrusted to it by its sending state and which are not prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving state, or to which no objection is taken by the receiving state.

Mr Botha said tonight that a decision regarding the non-return of the four South African citizens on bail was a final decision which would not be reversed. The step had been decided on as a retaliatory measure for Britains refusal to evict the detainees, or allow South African Police to enter the consulate.

The British Government's obstruction of the enforcement of South African law ran contrary to international law and the Vienna Convention. Mr Botha said the bail paid on behalf of the four South Africans would probably be estreated unless a court found differently. The foreign minister emphasized that there was no chance of a reversal of the government's decision.

"We are reverting back to the status quo," he said. "The British were given an opportunity to stop violating international law and obstructing the enforcement of South African law and they have failed to do so. The South African Government believed for some time that the British Government would take action against the detainees. On the 13th (Sept), we were told they would be leaving the consulate any minute now," Mr Botha said.

It was only when the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's letter to the Labor Party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, make public the British attitude — that the detainees would not be required to leave the premises against their will — that South Africa's position was made impossible.

Mr Botha emphasized that the government had at all times refrained from "going public" on the matter, because it understood the British Government's dilemma. It then became clear the British Government would not comply with South African law enforcement. "So far, the British Government has shown no awareness of our dilemma," Mr Botha said.

In the first aide memoire, on September 20, handed to Sir Antony (CQ) Acland, the permanent secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the South African ambassador pointed out that the failure of the British Government to persuade the detainees to vacate the consulate during "what must be considered a prolonged period of time," had made it necessary to give effect to the detention notices. The British Government was urgently requested to either deliver the South Africans, or instruct the head of the consular post to allow the South African authorities to enter the consulate.

In a second aide memoire, the South African Government takes of the action of the British Government and says that considering that the British attitude "amounts to an obstruction of the enforcement of South African law, the South African Government considers itself absolved from its undertaking to a United Kingdom court to ensure the return of the United Kingdom of four South Africans who have been charged with contravening British customs and exise legislation."

The Baroness Young, minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, responded to the second aide memoire today, saying that the position remained unchanged regarding the six men, who should not be required to leave the premises of the consulate agaisnt their will. Her Majesty's Government could not agree that its attitude amounted to "an obstruction of the enforcement of South African law, and could not accept that there could be any justification for linking this matter to the case of the four South African nationals charged with contravening the UK customs and exise legislation. The repudiation by the South African Government of its undertaking to the United Kingdom court was totally unacceptable.

Mr Botha said tonight that the British Government had refused a request for Dr Worral to see Mrs Thatcher, as was customary in matters of extreme urgency and importance. This courtesy ahd been extended to the British ambassador on many occasions, he said.

In an aide memoire passed on to the British Government by Dr Worral tonight, the South African Government says it found it incomprehensible that the British refusal to either surrender the six people in the consulate, or allow the authorities to enter it did not amount to an obstruction to enforcement of South African law. Furthermore, the British Government did not even attempt to justify its position, or to address the arguments of the South African Government to the effect that its attitudes clearly conflicted with customary international law as codified by the Vienna Convention on consular relations.

The British Government's attitude in respect of the six South Africans forced the South African Government to either enter the consulate and take them into custody, or to ake action similar to that of the British Government and designed to illustrate South Africa's displeasure with the British actions. "The South African Government decided on the latter course of action," the aide memoire says.

"The South African Government trusts that the British Government will seriously ponder over the consequences which its attitude might have on saboteurs and terrorists who, in the future, might be encouraged to seek refuge from law enforcement agencies in embassies and consulates around the world. Regarding the South African Government's undertaking to a court in the United Kingdom, the South African Government wishes it to be known that it was at all times willing to meet its obligations in this respect until the British Government repudiated its obligations in terms of international law and made it clear that it was not prepared to allow the enforcement in South Africa of legal provisions passed by the South African Parliament."

The memoire ends by saying that the South African Government intended to explain fully to the relevant court why it felt compelled to consider itself absolved from its undertakings.

Rightwingers Plot Against Refugees

MB230941 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
23 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Right-Wingers are said to be plotting to flush the six Durban consulate refugees out of their haven — possibly by threatening to blow them up. Scorned by the British Government, hounded by the Security Police, the six political leaders now face a new theat as they enter their tenth day inside the consulate.

Fears are growing in Durban — particularly among those close to the sit-in six — that right-wingers could force an evacuation of the building by threatening to blow it up. A bomb scare could force all those in the building to get out, laying the leaders open to kidnapping. They could also face arrest by the Security Police, who have been trying to arrest them for more than two weeks.

"Our fears have grown over the last 48 hours because of a number of suspicious activities outside the consulate building," a United Democratic Front official told *CITY PRESS* late yesterday. "We have also sent a telex message to the Police Commissioner telling him of our fears and asking him to improve security."

Relatives of the sit-in six have reported seeing "suspicious" people — some with two-way radios — outside the building at night. Cars have also been parked outside the entrance for hours on end, and a close check has been kept on people entering and leaving the consulate building.

Reagan Address to UN General Assembly Noted

MB241842 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] President Reagan says the ground work has been laid for the independence of South-West Africa, with virtually all aspects of Security Council Resolution 435 agreed upon. Addressing the UN General Assembly in New York, President Reagan said the United States was engaged in diplomacy to resolve conflict situations in Southern Africa by working with the Frontline States and the countries forming the Western contact group.

He pointed out that South Africa and Mozambique had reached what he described as an historic accord on nonaggression and cooperation. South Africa, he added, had also reached agreement with Angola on the withdrawal of South African forces from Angolan territory.

President Reagan said the United States considered it a moral imperative that South Africa's racial policies evolved peacefully, but decisively, towards a system compatible with the basic norms of justice, liberty, and human dignity. He said he was pleased that American companies were providing equal employment opportunities, and thus contributing to the economic advancement of the black population. However, much more must be done.

P.W. Botha Comments on Government, Foreign Troops

MB241813 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1813 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 24, SAPA — The time had come for South Africans to fulfill the commitment they had made to the future a year ago, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said in Cape Town tonight.

Opening the Cape National Party Congress at the Goodwood Agricultural Grounds, he said democracy could only be applied in a practical way if decisions were made by a majority of those who made themselves heard by way of the vote. "People who do not carry out their duty to vote, must not, after the event, complain about their democratic rights and privileges or lack thereof," President Botha said in his first political speech since being inaugurated as the executive head of state.

"We have succeeded in establishing the structures of Parliament and the other instruments of government agreed to by the referendum and the elections for the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates. The Presidents Council has been constituted. Whether we succeed and achieve positive results will, however, depend not only on what is printed on paper and the form of the structures we have created. What is more important is that we have the dedication, the courage and the faith to make the system work," Mr Botha said.

The state president said he knew some groups and individuals in South Africa were frustrated "because their plans have been rejected." Some were frustrated because they wanted to repeat the mistakes that had been made in other African states.

"A system of one-man, one-vote in a unitary state will simply not work. It will lead to strife, animosity, the destruction of rights of minorities, economic deterioration and instability. To those who feel so frustrated, I appeal to them to adopt a more positive attitude. Frustration produces unhappiness. Frustration withholds you from delivering your best for your country and to those who need your services. I suggest that people, instead of resorting to violence and negative propaganda, should rather determine for themselves in which way they could contribute positively to the building of the future," he said.

If fewer people indulged in "negative actions," more people would be available "to accept the challenge of making the Republic a country of good hope and a regional power of importance."

President Botha said he and the government were aware of their responsibilities in southern Africa. "We are concerned about the bleak and depressing conditions existing in some of our neighbouring countries. We are also convinced that many African states no longer want aid. They want cooperation in different fields in order to make it possible for them to help themselves. All who are really concerned about Africa must contribute towards genuine peace and opportunities toward prosperity."

Mr Botha said confrontation in the subcontinent could be avoided if the superpowers did not involve themselves in Southern Africa "in such a way as to make it merely another region in the east-west power struggle."

South Africa had no claims against its neighbours territories. "But we can never accept that the presence of foreign troops in Southern Africa is a prerequisite to peaceful coexistence. Nor can we accept that it is justifiable for international terrorism to use neighbouring countries as springborads against us. We are determined to fight these developments as dangerous to peace," the state president said.

Viljoen Blames Unrest on 'External Elements'

MB230707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0701 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Item labeled "corrected repeat"]

[Text] Johannesburg, Sept 22, SAPA — Unrest in the Vaal Triangle had been stirred up by external elements, the minister of cooperation, development and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said in a SABC-TV interview tonight. Speaking after a meeting today with Vaal township councillors, Dr Viljoen said: "I was informed by officials here that quite a number of the funerals of people who were killed during the riots did not take place in this area, but elsewhere, in Atteridgeville, Soweto, Daveyton, and Vosloorus."

He said this "shows that the trouble was brought in by instigators who came from the outside."

The councillors met Dr Viljoen to discuss dire food shortages in the wake of the unrest in the area. Councillors from the Sebokeng and Evaton areas are reported to be concerned about the worsening food situation resulting from the fact that most shops and food outlets were burnt to the ground during the unrest. The mayor of the Evaton Town Council, Mr Sam Rabataphi, said the food supply situation in the area had reached critical proportions and that government aid was needed to alleviate them.

Cooperation Minister To Ask Aid for Vaal Triangle

MB230548 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of cooperation, development, and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, has promised black community leaders in the Vaal Triangle that he will convey to the government departments concerned their request for aid after the recent unrest. Dr Viljoen was speaking after talks with community leaders in Sebokeng to discuss dire food shortages in black residential areas.

Leaders in Sebokeng and Evaton are reported to be concerned about the worsening situation resulting from the fact that most shops and food outlets were burned to the ground during the unrest. The mayor of the Evaton Town Council, Mr Sam Rabataphi, described the present food supply in the areas as critical.

DAILY MAIL Discusses Unrest in Black Townships

MB211129 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 21 Sep 84 p 8

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] By the year 2000 black townships in the major metropolitan areas may experience large scale unrest, with adverse implications for economic growth and state control, Professor Hermann Giliomee, of the University of Cape Town, wrote in a recent article. His attempt to depict the political situation at the turn of the century was published on the eve of the outbreak of unrest in the Vaal townships and on a smaller scale in Soweto and the East Rand townships.

The virtual fulfilment of his prediction 16 years ahead of the time invites the comment: "The future is now". But the 1976-77 unrest in black townships — in which at least 575 people died, according to the Cillie Commission — also suggests an Orwellian label: "The future is the past".

At one level there is a surreal dimension of sameness about unrest in the townships. History seems to be repeating itself in an almost nightmarish way, recalling the shibboleth that those who cannot learn from history are doomed to relive it. But there are important differences as well as similarities between the present turmoil and the upheavals of 1976-77. A salient difference is the physical and, in some cases, murderous attacks on councillors in the black townships.

Members of the now defunct Urban Bantu Councils (UBC) were verbally abused and harangued into resigning by black militants in 1977, particularly in Soweto and its neighbouring township of Dobsonville. But they were not subject to homicidal assault by angry mobs and anonymous suicide squads in the way that their successors in the town councils have been. The present situation was encapsulated in Sunday *PRESS* reports on September 9, the weekend after violence erupted in the Vaal townships.

Two deputy majors were dead, Mr Sam Dlamini of the Lekoa Town Council and Mr Phillemon Diphoko of Evaton. Both were victims of mob violence. Another victim was Councillor Caesar Montjaene. While he lay in the morgue waiting to be buried, a colleague, Councillor J. Chakane, was seriously ill in hospital. He was to die witin a few days. Juxtaposed with the recording of these deaths, were accounts of arson attacks during the same weekend on the homes of the mayor of Katlehong, Mr A.P. Khumalo, and the mayor of Dobsonville, Mr Don Mnesi.

Later one of the businesses of the tycoon Mayor of Soweto, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, was set alight. He has since reportedly gone into hiding. Even before the upsurge of violence which devastated the Vaal townships at least 12 fire-bomb attacks had been carried out against Soweto councillors by the self-styled South African Suicide Squad. A complex amalgam of several overlapping factors transformed the popular dislike of councillors in 1977 — as manifest in the campaign against the Urban Bantu Councils [ABC] in that year and in the generally low polls for the Community Councils in 1977-78 — into naked violence.

One factor, ironically, was the upgrading of black township councils from powerless institutions with advisory powers only to bodies with real but limited powers. The upgrading process was marked by the chronological progression from the UBC — known derisively as "Useless Boys Clubs" — to the Community Councils and, finally, to the Town Councils set up in 29 townships last year under the Black Local Authorities Act. The new town councils did not commend themselves to township residents any more than the Community Councils or UBCS before the them.

Comparison of percentage polls in elections for town councils last year and elections for the community councils in 1977-78 shows that town councils were generally less acceptable. Soweto was an exception. The poll last year was 10.7 percent against 5.7 percent in the 1978 election for the Soweto Community Council. Both polls, however, were so low as to raise serious doubts about the legitimacy of both the Town Council and the Community Council before it. Outside of Soweto, however, there was a definite trend toward lower polls for the Town Council elections.

A study last year by the department of political science at the Rand Afrikaans University showed that blacks felt more angry at the thought of tri-racial rule by whites, Coloured and Indians than at the prospect of continued uni-racial rule by whites. It was a clear case of relative deprivation. Although blacks were offered greater (but still strictly confined) powers of local government, they felt relatively deprived compared to Coloureds and Indians, who were being offered a place in the formerly sacroscant whites-only parliament. Sociologists have long warned that a strong sense of relative deprivation is one of the most explosive of all societal forces.

The apparent lesson of Community Councils in the late 1970s and the Town Councils today is that they have little hope of popular legitimacy while they are offered as an alternative to participation in central government — instead of as a means to greater local government in its own right. The explanation for the unpopularity of the town councillors goes deeper. South Africa's ruling National Party is increasingly pursuing a strategy of co-opting "moderate" blacks as its political auxilaries.

Like their counterparts in the "homelands" and the Coloured and Indian MPs in the tri-racial parliament, township councillors have insisted that they entered the "system" to advance the cause of underprivileged blacks generally. Their problem, however, is that they are saddled with the responsibility of administering the townships without having an adequate budget to do so.

Townships are meant to be self-financing. But they simply do not have the central business districts to tax to raise money. Councillors are often forced to take the unpopular action of raising service and electricity charges to balance their budgets. Thus they become, in the colloquial idiom, the fall guys for the real holders of power in Pretoria. Their businesses are often seen as evidence that they have used their positions as town councillors to advance their material interests, or — to put it less tactfully

— their businesses are perceived as the "fruits of collaboration". Hence at attacks on the businesses themselves.

To this already volatile combination of factors generating resentment and hatred in the townships, further explosive ingredients were added in the past year or so: the rising cost of living and the increase in general sales tax to 10 percent: a general sales situation of high unemployment; the failure of upwards of 50 percent matric pupils with the bleak pospect before them of unemployment. Hence their availability as the shock troops of radical political forces.

Finally, the 18 months before the outbreak of large scale violence was a period of intense politicisation in the black community, as evinced by the rapid rise of the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the intense competition between it and the National Forum (NF) for the allegiance of blacks. The UDF and the NF vied with one another to add a potent ideological element to the bubbling township crucible — the doctrine of anti-collaboration, with its contempt for "collaborators," as a political riposte to the co-option strategy of "reform" pursued by the P.W. Botha administration.

Buthelezi Speaks Out Against Township Violence

MB250801 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu and president of Inkatha, Chief Buthelezi, says violence in the townships and faction fighting in rural areas sidetracked the black man's struggle for freedom. Speaking at a Shaka Day celebration at Stanger in Natal, Chief Buthelezi reaffirmed the Inkatha Movement's commitment to nonviolent methods. He said he continued to hold the olive branch to the external mission of the ANC, to the UDF, and other organizations, but in most cases he had not received a sincere response.

Chief Buthelezi sounded a warning against violence. He said blacks should rather stand together to eliminate the causes of suffering and misery, such as drugs, cyclones, the lack of employment, and retrenchments.

Survey Shows Worker Anger at 'Ominously High Level'

MB230916 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English
23 Sep 84 p 17

[By Ivor Wilkins]

[Text] As South Africa continues to reel under the worst black unrest since 1976, black worker anger is at an ominously high level. Two thirds of black blue-collar production workers describe themselves as either "unhappy" or "angry and impatient". And, by far the largest group — 50 percent — place themselves in the "angry and impatient" category.

This anger index has grown steadily in successive comparative studies. In 1977, the West German Bergstraesser Institute pegged the anger index at 39 percent. In 1981, a study by Professor Schlemmer's Centre for Applied Social Sciences reported it had risen to 56 percent and another study in 1982 found it had climbed to 58 percent. Two years later, it has jumped another six percentage points.

The latest study found that three percent of blue collar workers described themselves as "very happy", five percent as "just happy" and 26 percent in a sort of emotional limbo as "happy yet not happy." Of the 66 percent who were unhappy or angry, the majority, 76 percent, were trade union members; 74 percent were between 35 and 49 years old; 74 percent were from the West Rand; and 58 percent had reached education levels between Standard 1 and Standard 4.

Asked whether they thought life was improving, staying the same, or getting worse, a majority — 60 percent — said it was getting worse. Only 16 percent thought life was improving, while 24 percent felt it was staying the same.

In an open-ended question, respondents were asked to say what factors in their lives had improved and deteriorated. Under "Improvements", most, 22 percent, listed home ownership, followed by urban amenities and services (16 percent), business opportunities (15 percent), less discrimination (12 percent), education and training (11 percent), more and better jobs (11 percent), improved standard of living and wages (8 percent) and better welfare services (7 percent).

Under "deteriorations", the top item was rising costs (55 percent), followed by political grievances (50 percent), wages (48 percent), unemployment (42 percent), tax deductions and social conditions tied at 26 percent each, rent increases and education level-pegged at 9 percent and civil unrest and sabotage was mentioned by 8 percent.

In the above two questions, the totals exceed 100 percent because more than one answer could be given.

Commenting on trends discerned in the black anger index, Professor Schlemmer notes that for the first time in many years of research, political grievances are now high on the agenda of ordinary production workers. It would appear from his finding that politically-motivated anger is spreading from the well-educated elite down to a broader base in the black community — an ominous development.

Translating political grievance into support for one or other organisation brought a mixed-bag result that was regionally influenced. The results in the Witwatersrand/Port Elizabeth sample differed considerably from the findings for Natal. In the former case, most respondents — 27 percent — expressed support for the African National Congress (ANC), with the United Democratic Front (UDF) gaining 11 percent support. But, out of a list of seven possibilities 22 percent of black workers in the Port Elizabeth and Witwatersrand areas could not support any of the organisation mentioned.

In his accompanying comments, Professor Schlemmer says this indicates that in these regions there is possibly a political vacuum for more pragmatically oriented workers. That vacuum is apparently filled by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha movement as far as Durban's black workers are concerned. There, the majority, 54 percent, expressed support for Inkatha, followed by 23 percent for the UDF and 11 percent for the ANC.

In an effort to assess black attitudes to armed confrontation in an objective situation, removed from their own circumstances, the study asked them their opinions on strategies for Namibia. The findings were that almost as many favoured armed confrontation (56 percent) as peaceful negotiation (67 percent) — again more than one answer could be given leading to totals exceeding 100 percent.

It also transpired that the youth (16 to 24 years) and better educated people and people living in Soweto and Pretoria were more militantly inclined. The latest study also investigated the willingness of blacks to take political risks and found their numbers had grown compared with previous studies. Now, 61 percent indicated such a willingness, compared with 45 percent in the 1982 Buthelezi Commission.

Survey Shows Blacks Oppose Disinvestment

MB230824 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 23 Sep 84 p 1

[By Ivor Vilkins]

[Text] South Africa's black workers have dealt a massive blow to the growing demand for disinvestment. Despite a growing sense of political anger, they overwhelmingly reject the withdrawal of foreign capital and trade boycotts as a strategy for their liberation.

In a major survey, black production workers have registered their views on the vital issue, and 75 percent of them were firmly against it. For the first time, those most closely affected by the question have voiced their feelings on a subject that is widely debated and on which dogmatic positions have been taken here and in Britain, Europe and North America.

The findings come when the disinvestment lobby is redoubling its efforts in the United States. Already four American states and 20 cities have passed legislation which inhibits or prohibits investment in South Africa. The landmark survey was conducted by Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, head of the Centre for Applied Social Sciences at the University of Natal. The study, described as an "Indicator South Africa" issue focus, was financed by the American State Department and tested the opinions of 551 black production workers in the industrial areas of the Transvaal, Port Elizabeth and Natal.

Commenting on the findings, Prof Schlemmer remarks: "... (black worker) replies on political issues show clearly they are no dull, apathetic and crushed proletariat who must be saved from a morass of false consciousness by liberated minds abroad."

The survey's major findings of black worker opinion are that: — 75 percent reject disinvestment; — anger has risen dramatically and half the labour force describe themselves as "angry and impatient"; — 60 percent feel their circumstances are deteriorating; — 61percent, more than ever before, say they are ready to take political risks; — they realise the potential power they wield, but at present most are reluctant to involve trade unions in the political struggle; — most of them — including trade unionists — prefer free enterprise to socialism. From the survey, it is clear that black workers separate their economic and political agendas to a remarkable degree.

On disinvestment, Professor Schlemmer says black workers "take an unabashedly short-run and material view" and most wished to see the benefits of the industrial system protected, regardless of other aspects of political change. They were prepared to support banned organisations — in the Transvaal and Port Elizabeth, the African Antional Congress (ANC) is the most favoured body — and more than a third were prepared to participate in a mass political strike. But they also wanted their employment and material opportunities protected. "Disinvestment...and trade sanctions are a threat to their material and work interests, and therefore they oppose them with firm consistency." However, there is widespread support for the ANC, which includes eonomic sanctions in its programme. Says Professor Schlemmer: "If ever (prodisinvestiment) agencies achieve formal influence in South African policy and affairs, black production workers... will be among the first supporters of that leadership." In an interview, he said the major lesson was that if anger grew, black workers would probably bridge the gap between political and economic aspirations and use labour as a weapon. The minority of hardliners prepared to unleash worker power for political ends is a substantial 30 percent.

Defense Minister Says Force Achieves Savings

MB230524 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says the Defense Force achieved the announced saving of 180 million rand following in-depth studies over the past months in all possible ways of economizing. SAPA quotes Gen Malan as having said that the extension of border duty for national servicemen and permanent force members from 3 to 6 months has brought abouoph the economic climate improved. However, Gen Malan pointed out that although there had been breathroughs and progress on diplomatic and political fronts, the security situation in South Africa had not changed dramatically. He said the ANC and SWAPO were continuing their terror campaigns.

SWAZILAND

Former Foreign Minister Dies of Heart Failure

MB230637 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Text] Former Foreign Minister of Swaziland Richard Velaphi Dlamini died of apparent cardiac failure in a Johannesburg clinic last night. Dlamini, who was in his late fifties, has spent the last 3 weeks in a Swazi hospital where he was being treated for high blood pressure. Dlamini was removed from office about 3 months ago along with the minister of finance and the heads of the Army and police amidst allegations that they were plotting a coup.